Shuzo Oshimi

Blood on the Tracks

volume 5

Blood on the Tracks

volume 5

Shuzo Oshimi

CHAPTER 34 Ditch 005

CHAPTER 35 Her Room 029

CHAPTER 36 Pledge 053

CHAPTER 37 Wakening 077

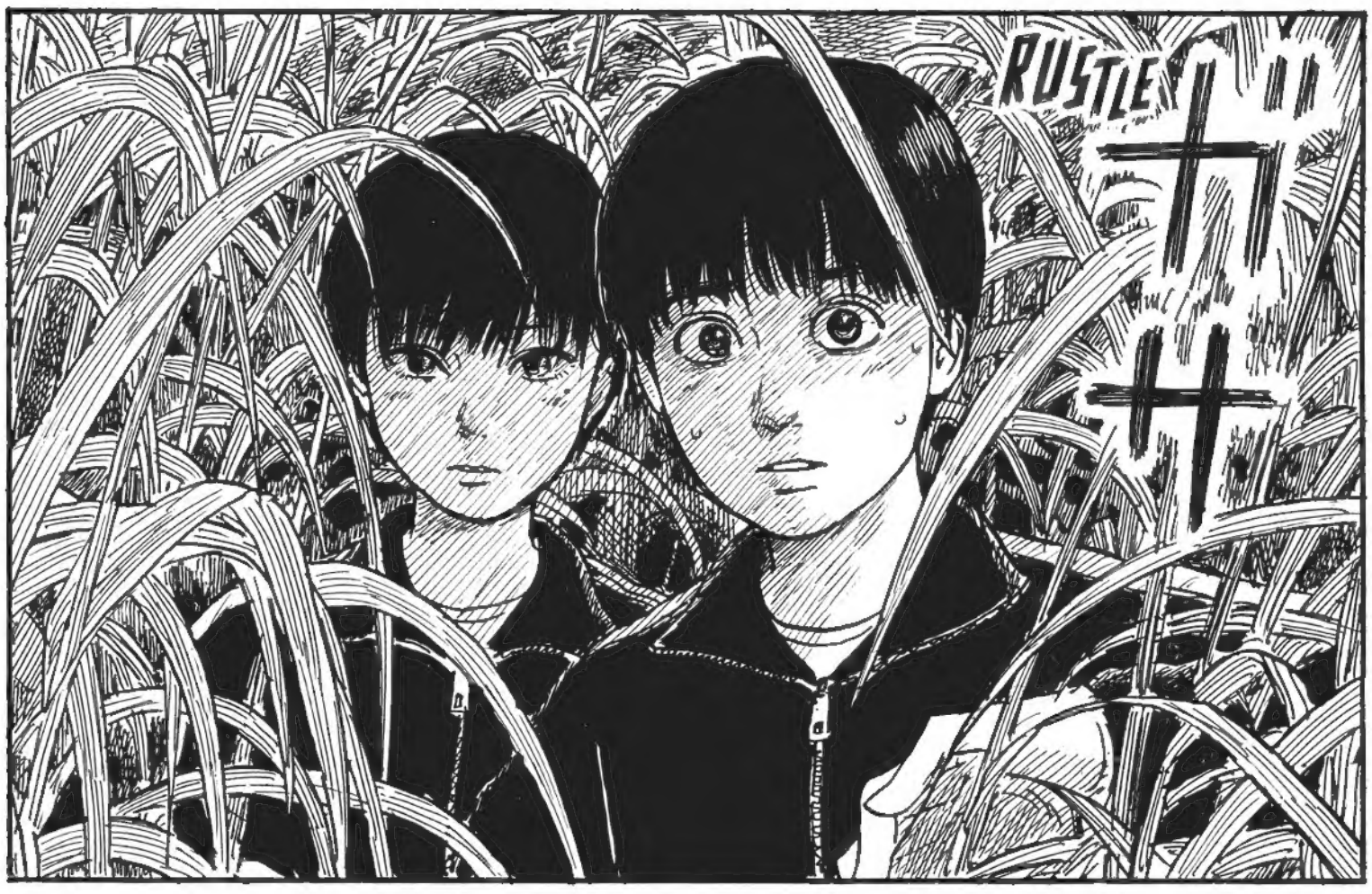
CHAPTER 38 Rain 101

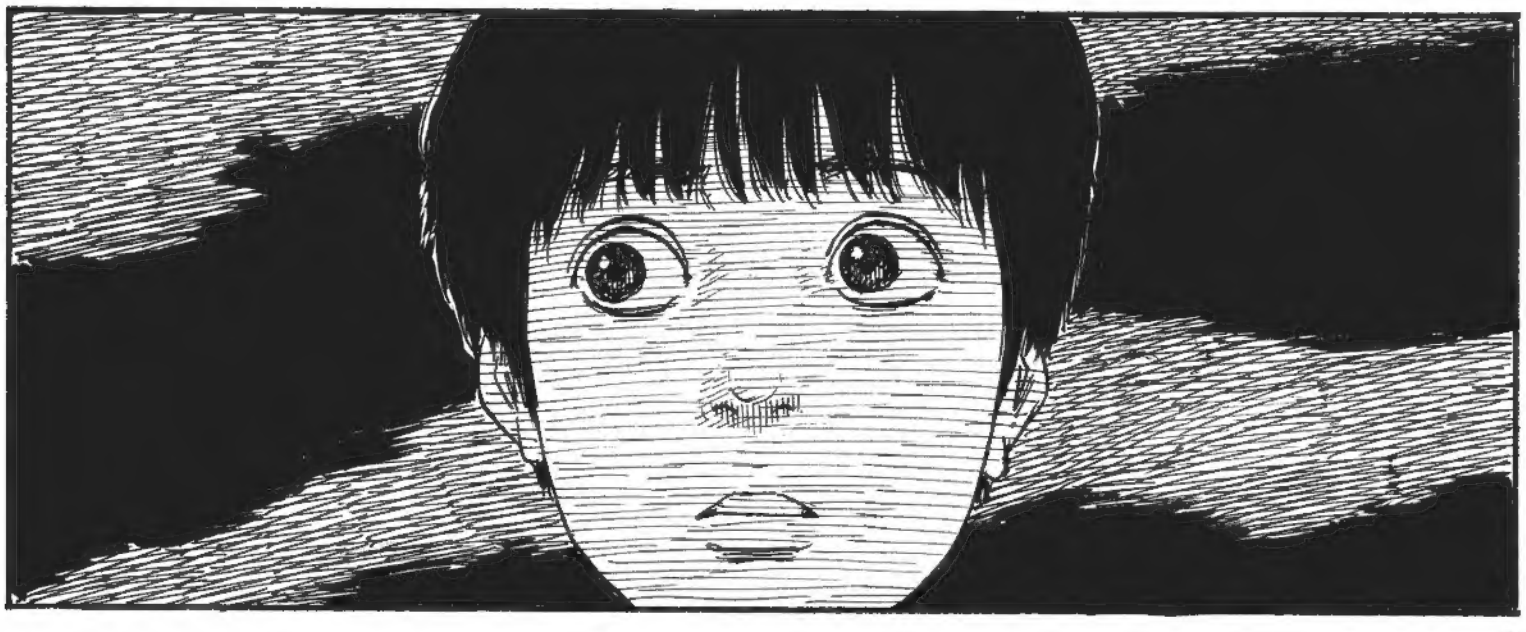
CHAPTER 39 Sodden Sounds 125

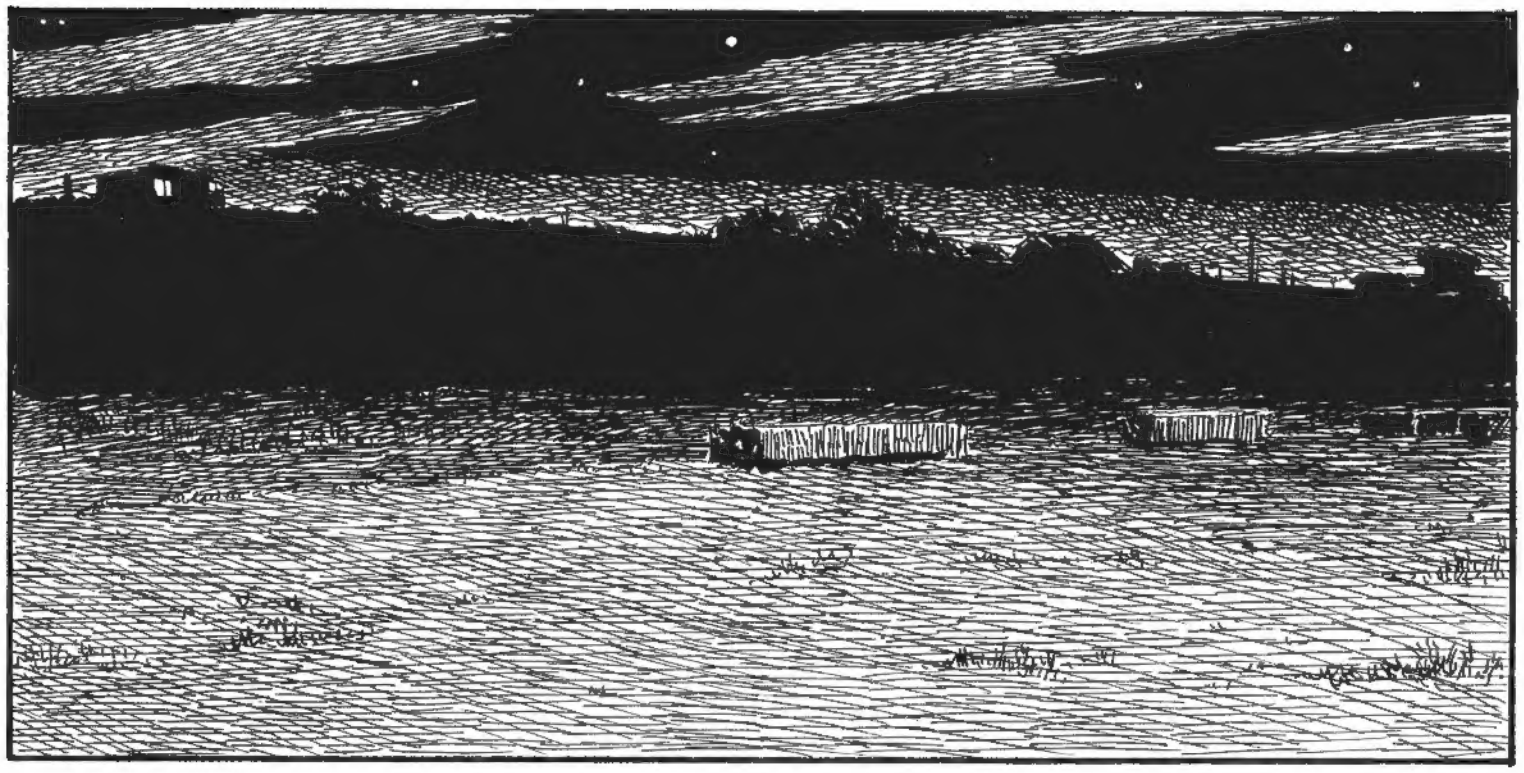
CHAPTER 40 Sin 149

CHAPTER 41 Eyes Inside 173

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

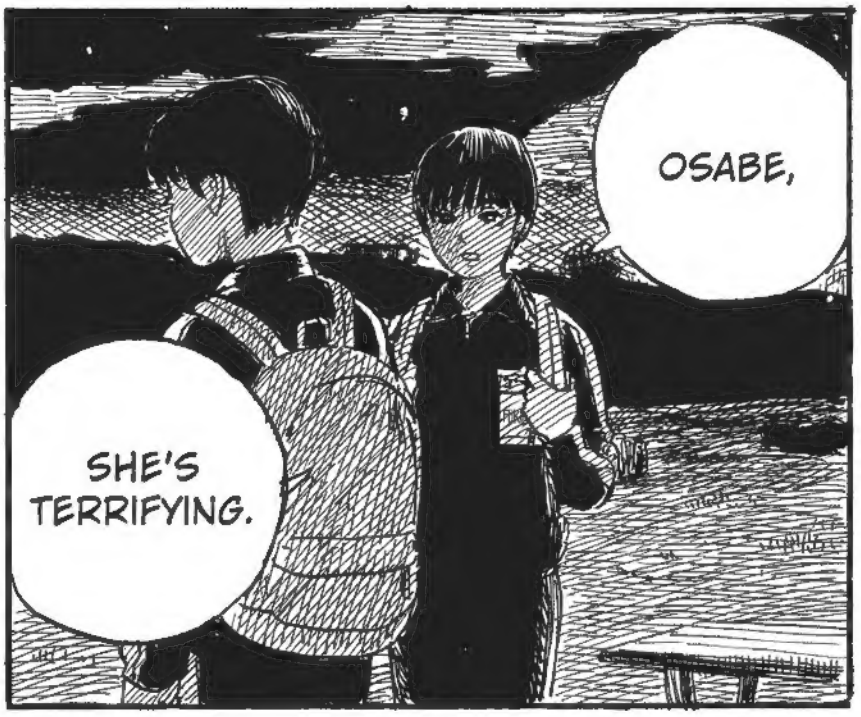

RUSTLE



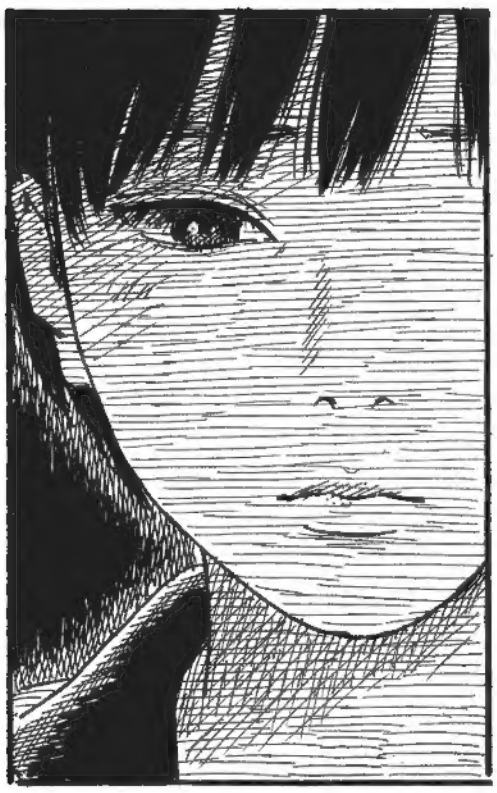


GONE?
IS YOUR MOM

LOOKS LIKE IT...
YEAH.


OSABE,
SHE'S TERRIFYING.

SO... WE HAVE TO RUN AWAY.
IF YOU STAY WITH HER, YOU'RE GONNA GO CRAZY.



RUN... AWAY...?
BUT... HOW?

WHAT'S WITH YOUR MOM, ANYWAY?

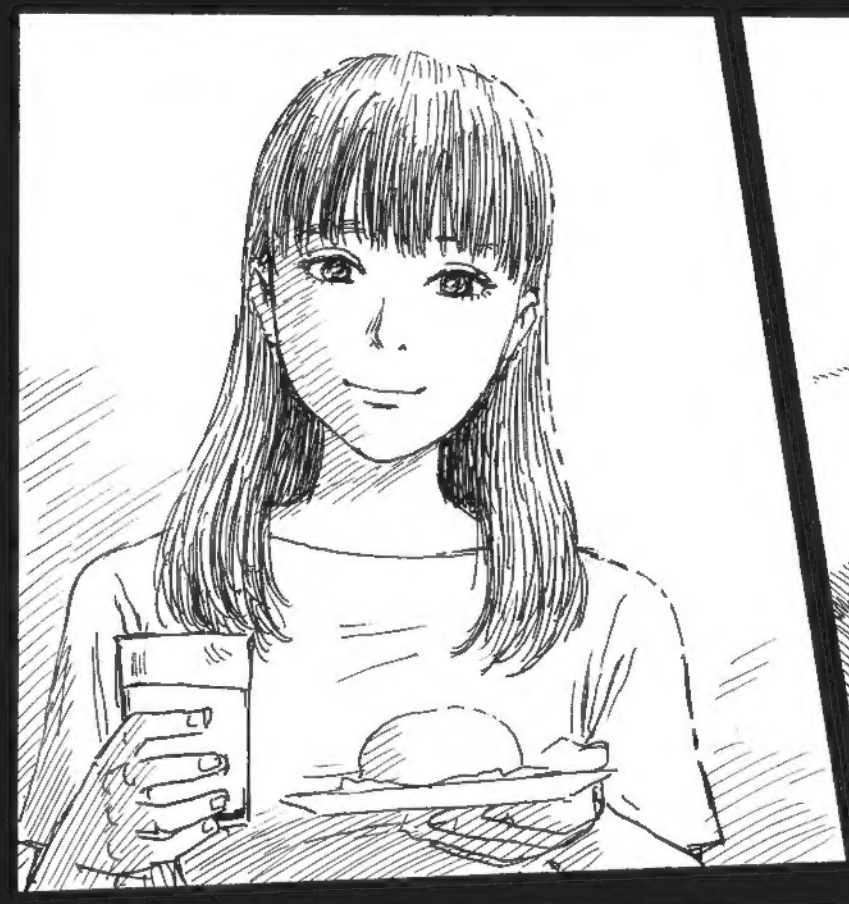
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

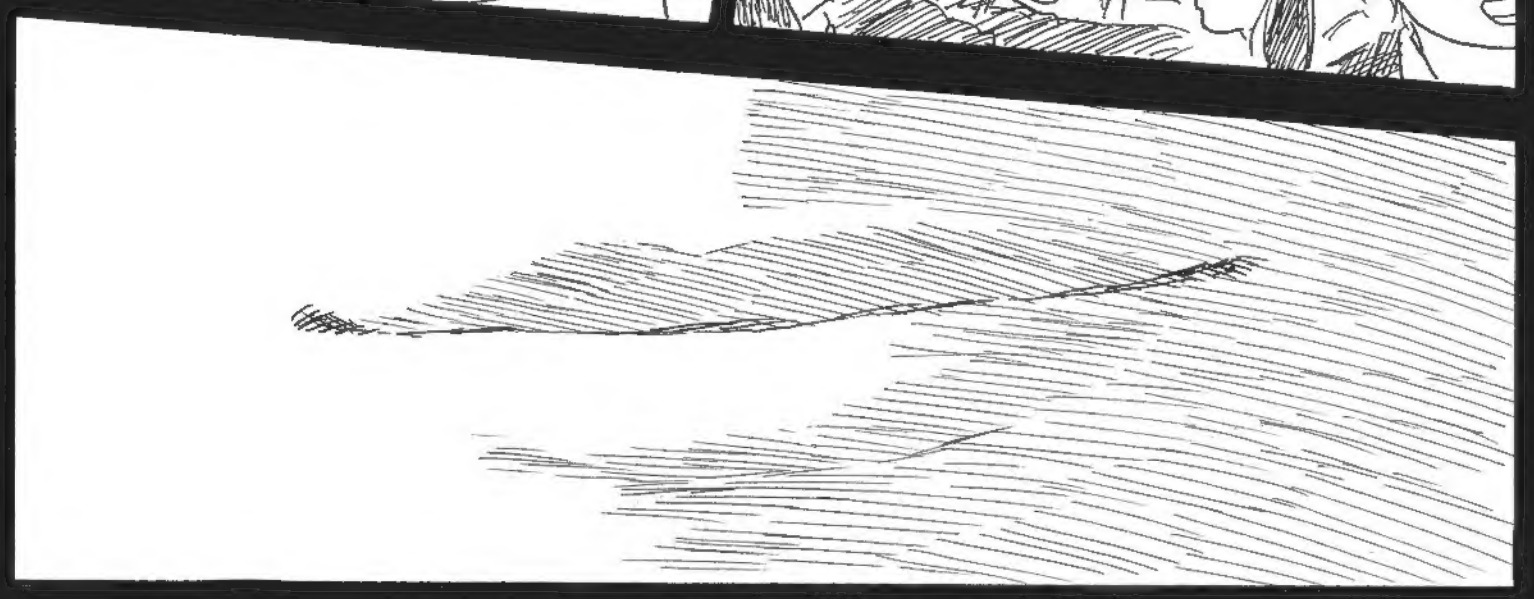
WAS SHE ALWAYS LIKE THAT?

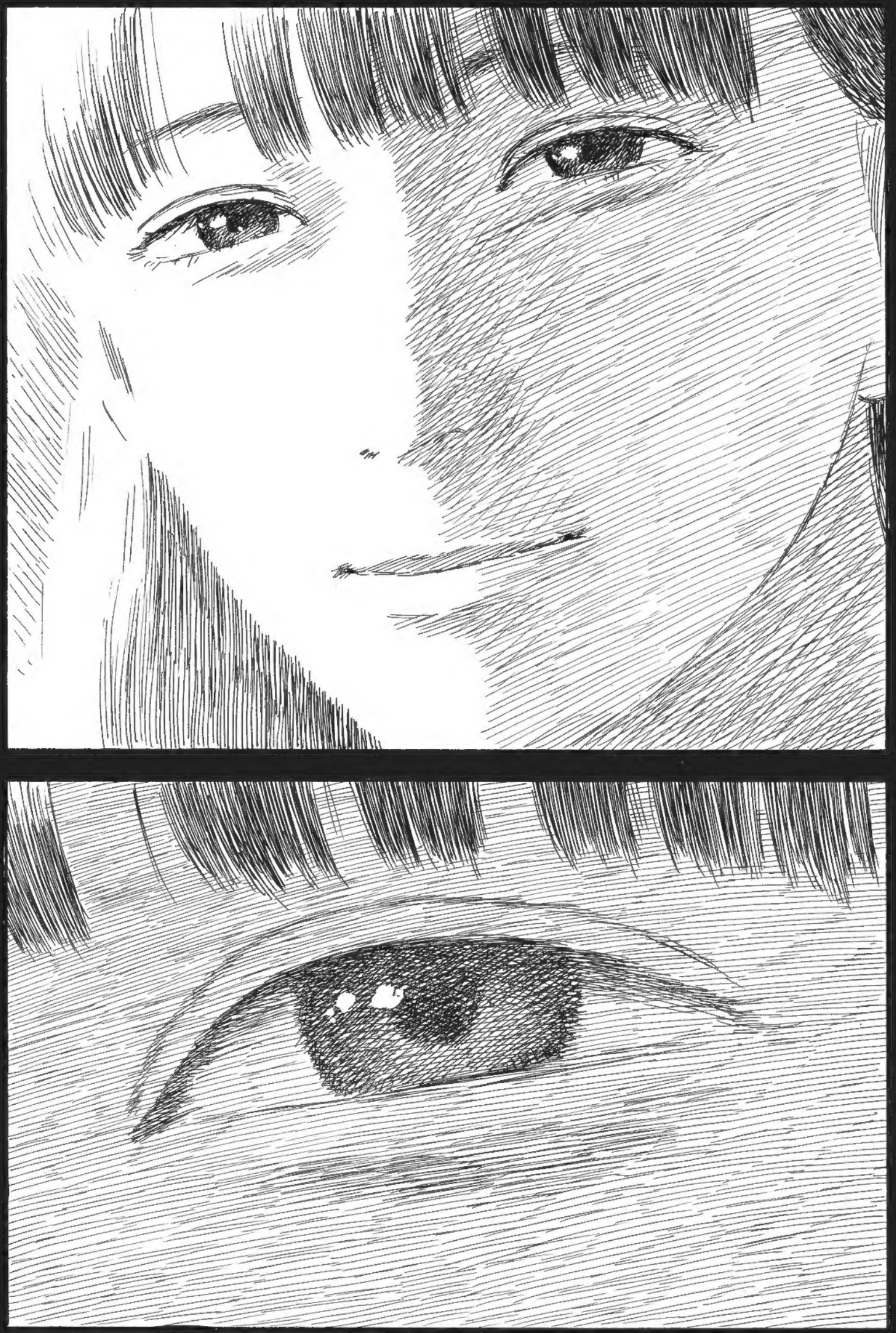
NOT ALWAYS...

SHE... NO...

SHE...







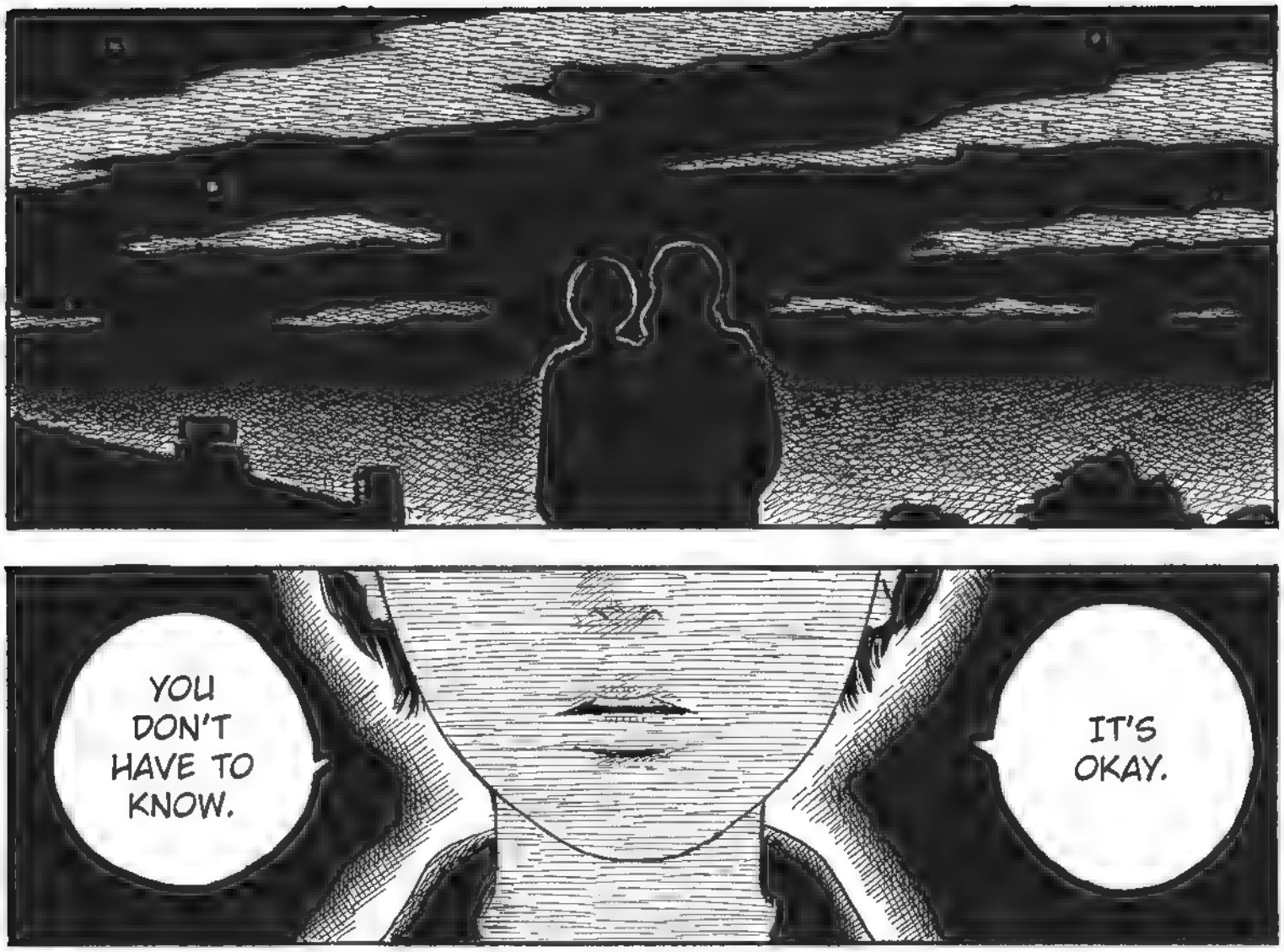
I MEAN...

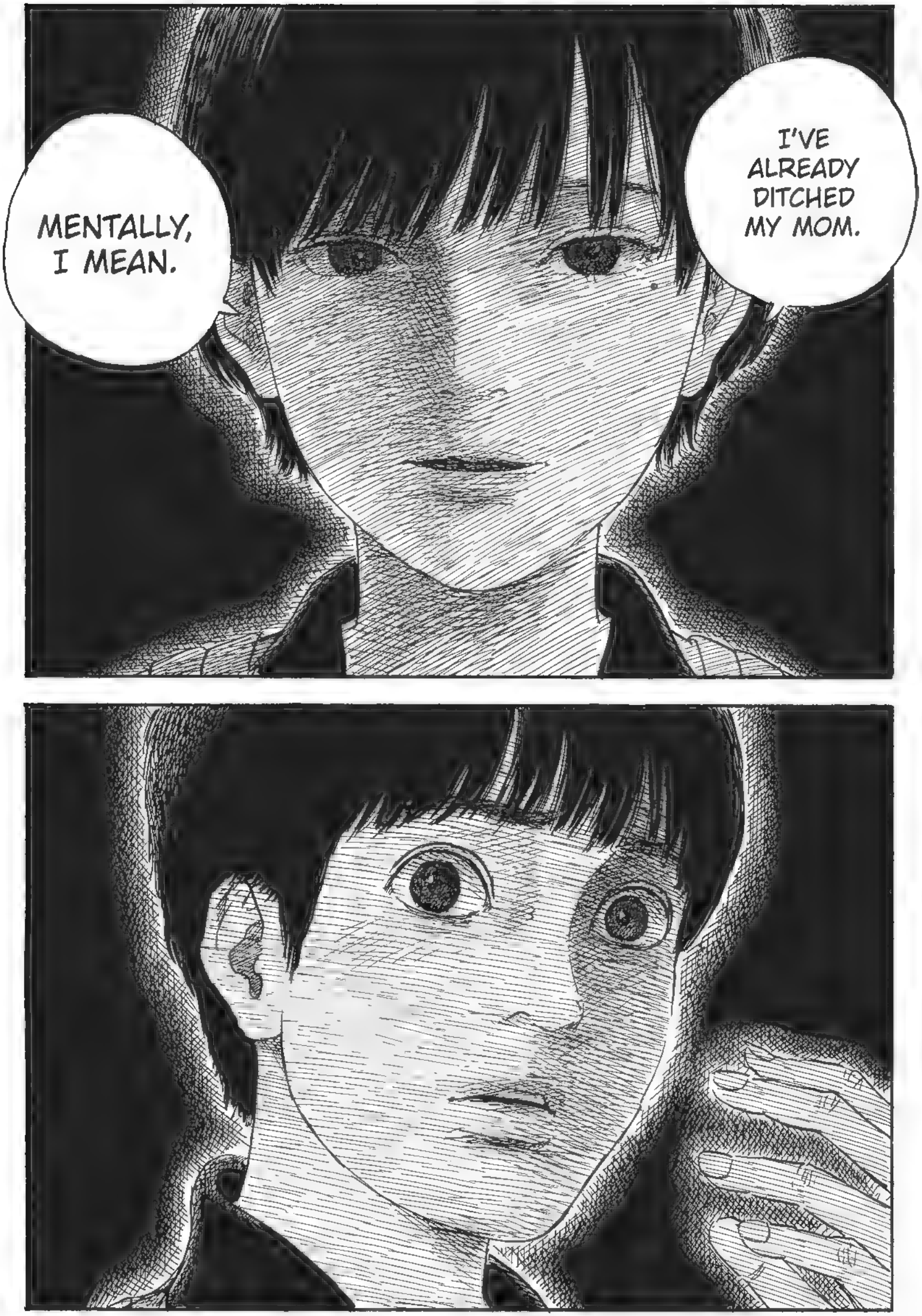
MAYBE SHE WAS...

OR...

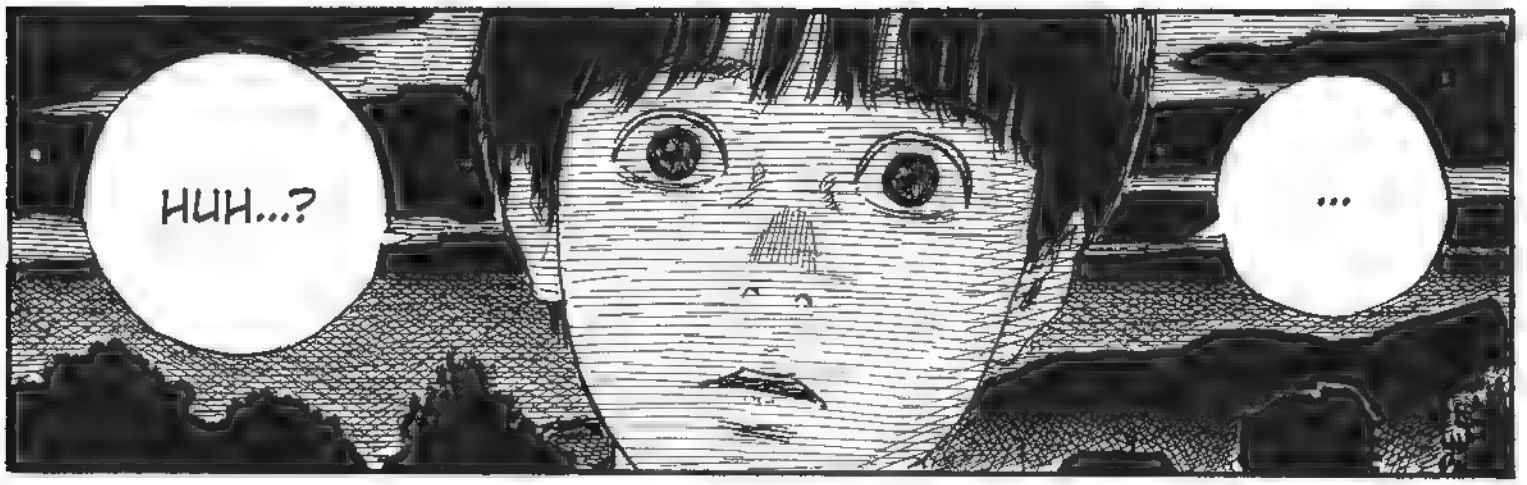
I DON'T KNOW...

I DON'T... KNOW...


YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW.
IT'S OKAY.
YOU CAN GET BY WITHOUT ONE.
YOU DON'T NEED A MOM.


MENTALLY, I MEAN.
I'VE ALREADY DITCHED MY MOM.

LET'S GO.


HUH...?
...

TO MY HOUSE.

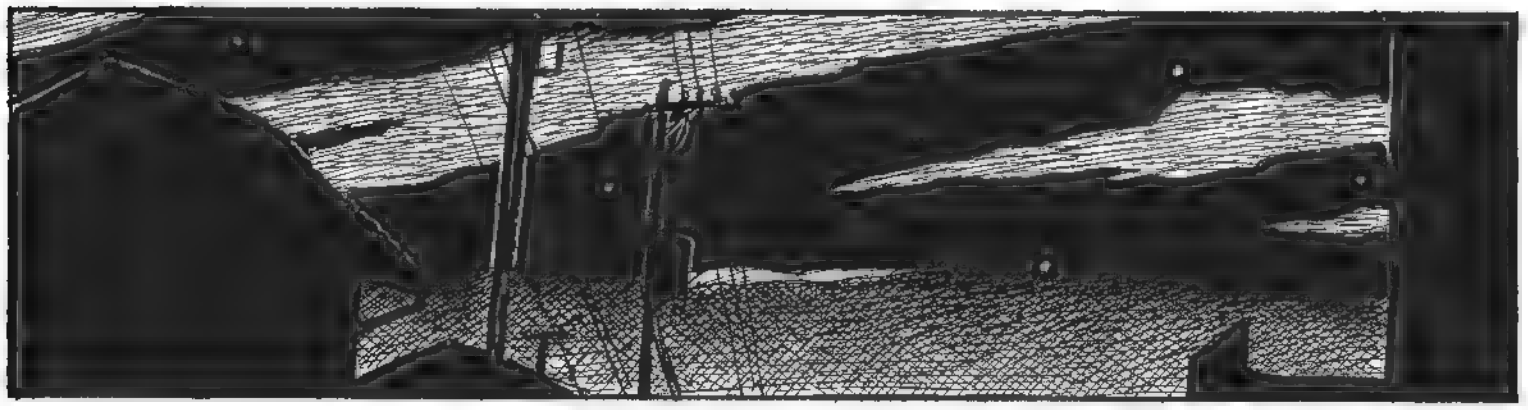
AND MY DAD AND GRANDMA NEVER COME IN.
DON'T WORRY! YOU CAN GET INTO MY ROOM FROM THE OUTSIDE.
HUH...?
BUT...
YOU CAN STAY WITH ME.

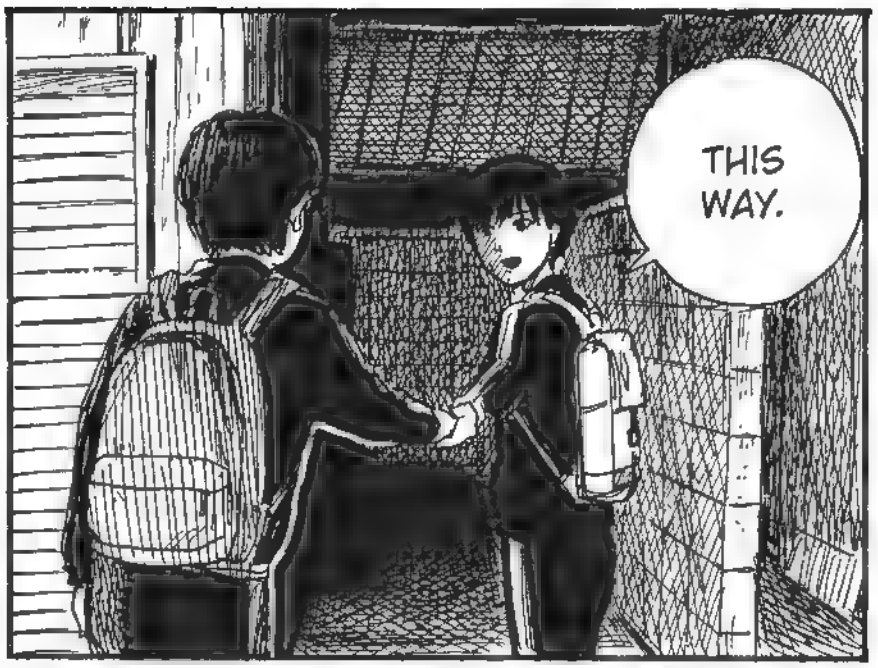
NOT TO A MOM LIKE THAT.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO HOME.

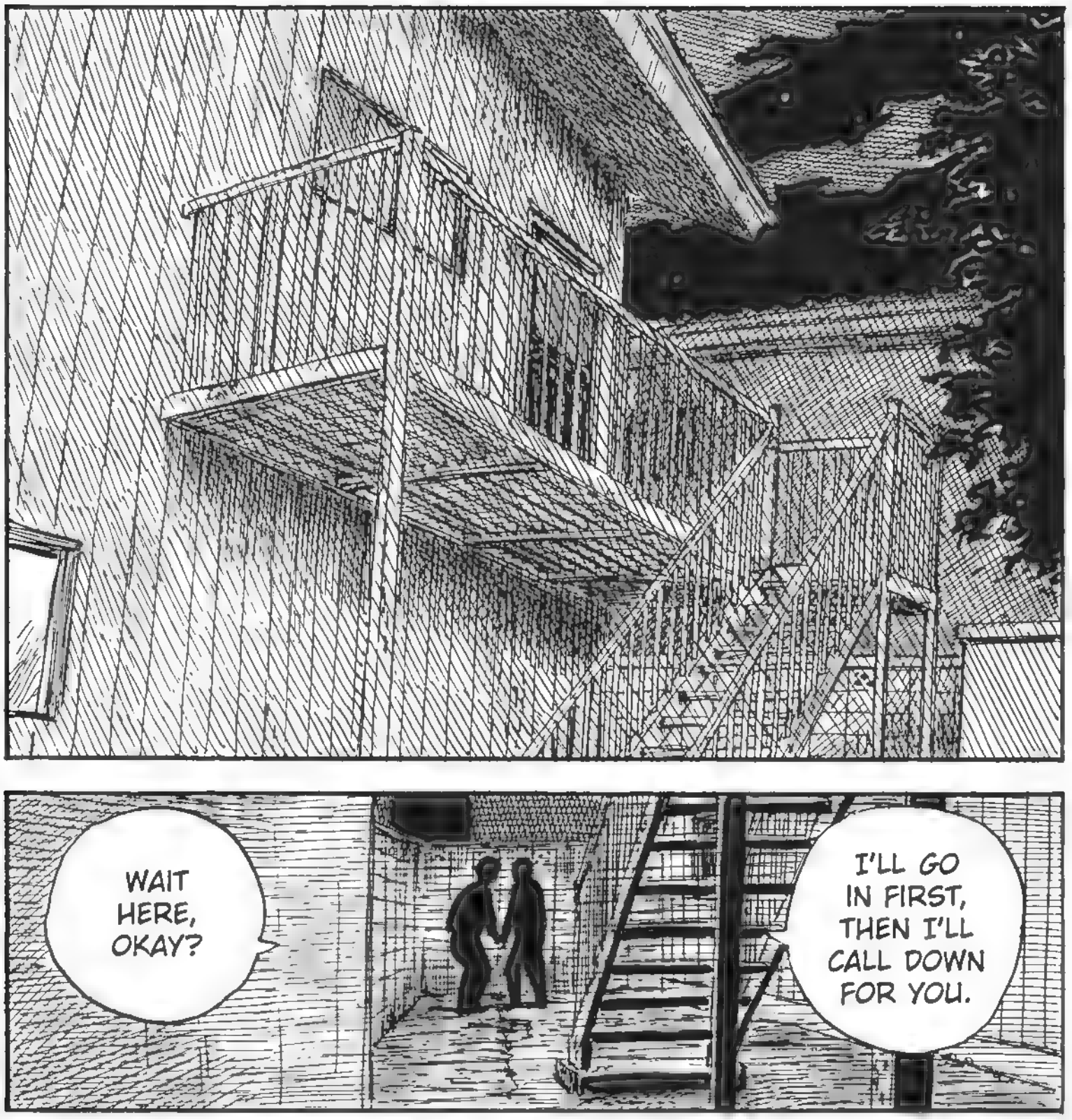
LET'S GO.

OK...



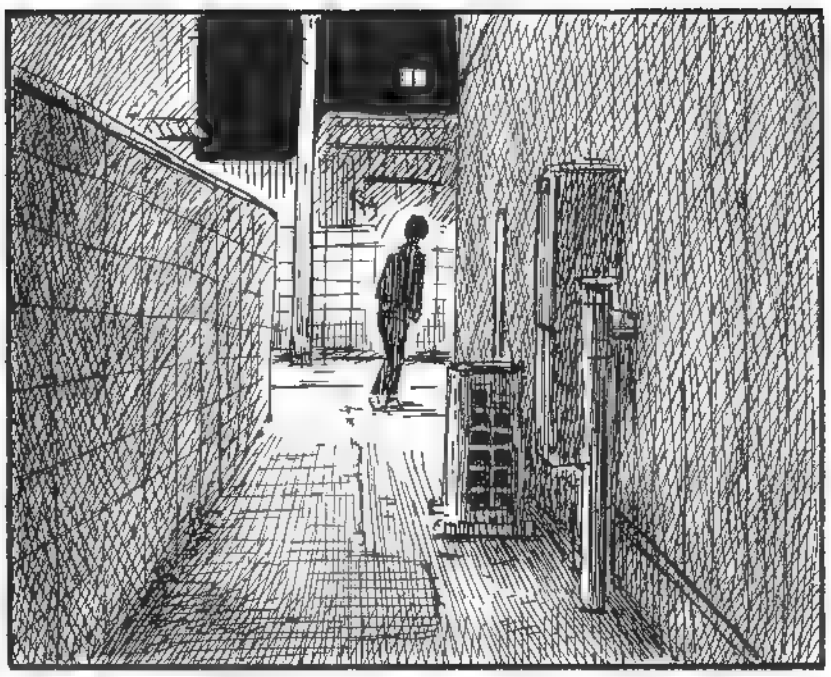

THIS WAY.

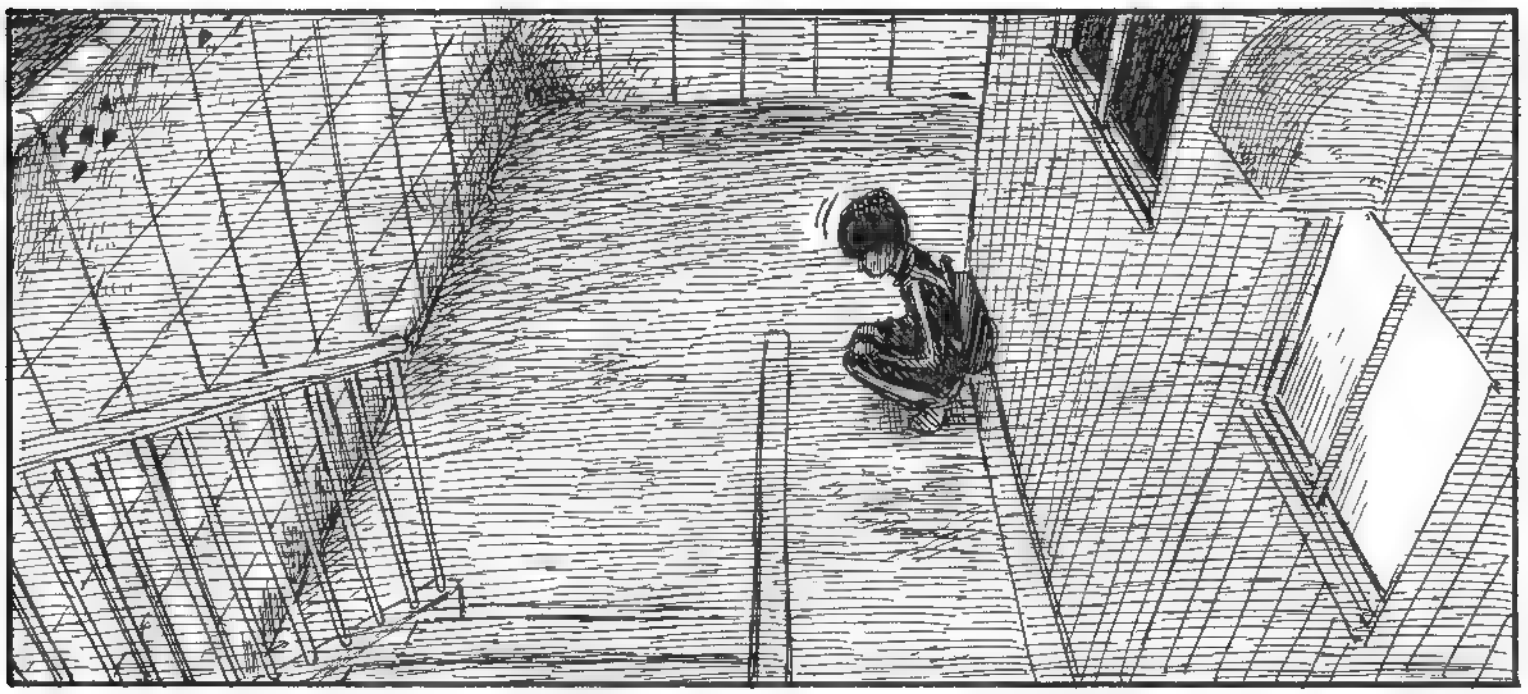
THAT'S MY ROOM.
UP THERE.


WAIT HERE, OKAY?
I'LL GO IN FIRST, THEN I'LL CALL DOWN FOR YOU.

NOO

KA-
CHIK
ガチャ
SLAM
バタン





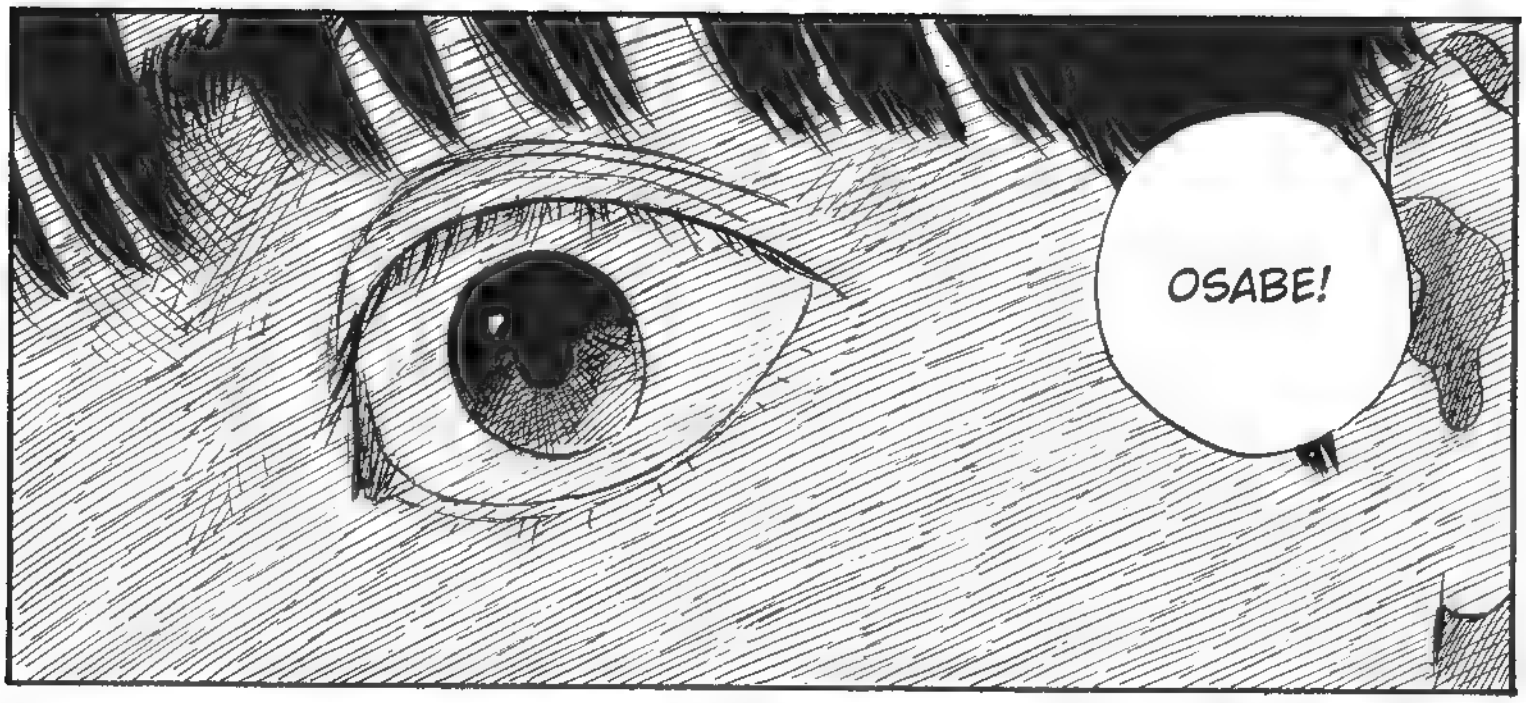
I DON'T NEED YOU!!

GO AWAY!

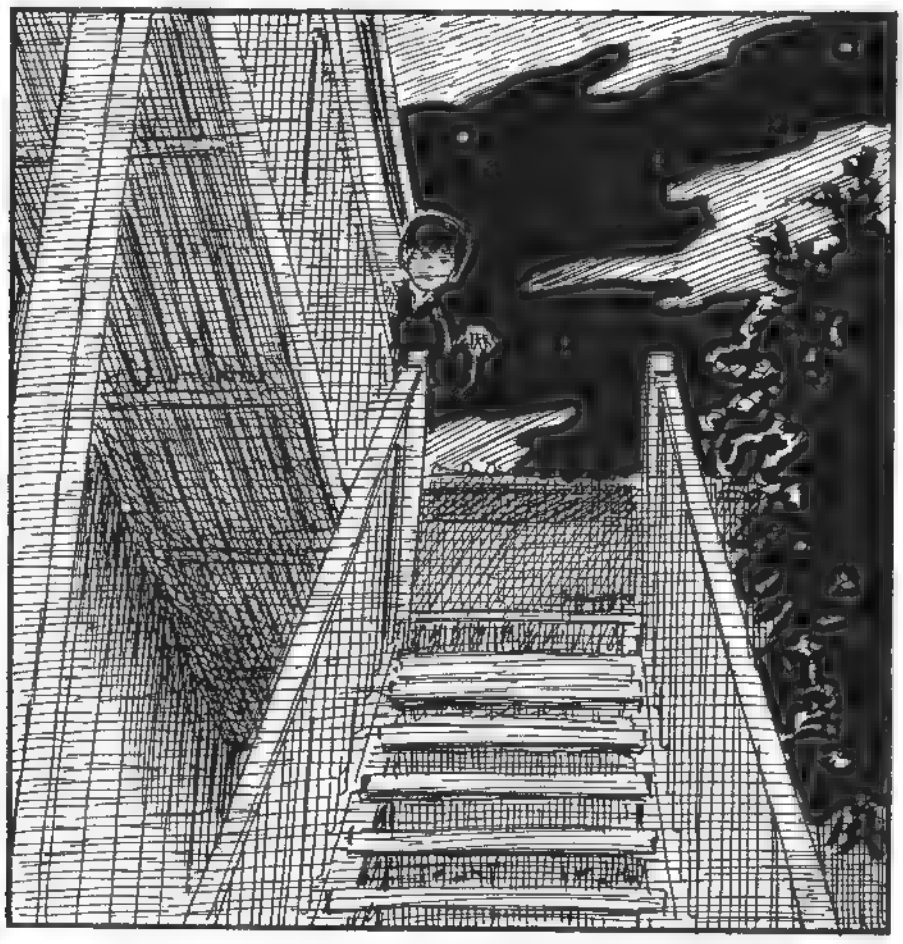
DITCHED MY MOM.

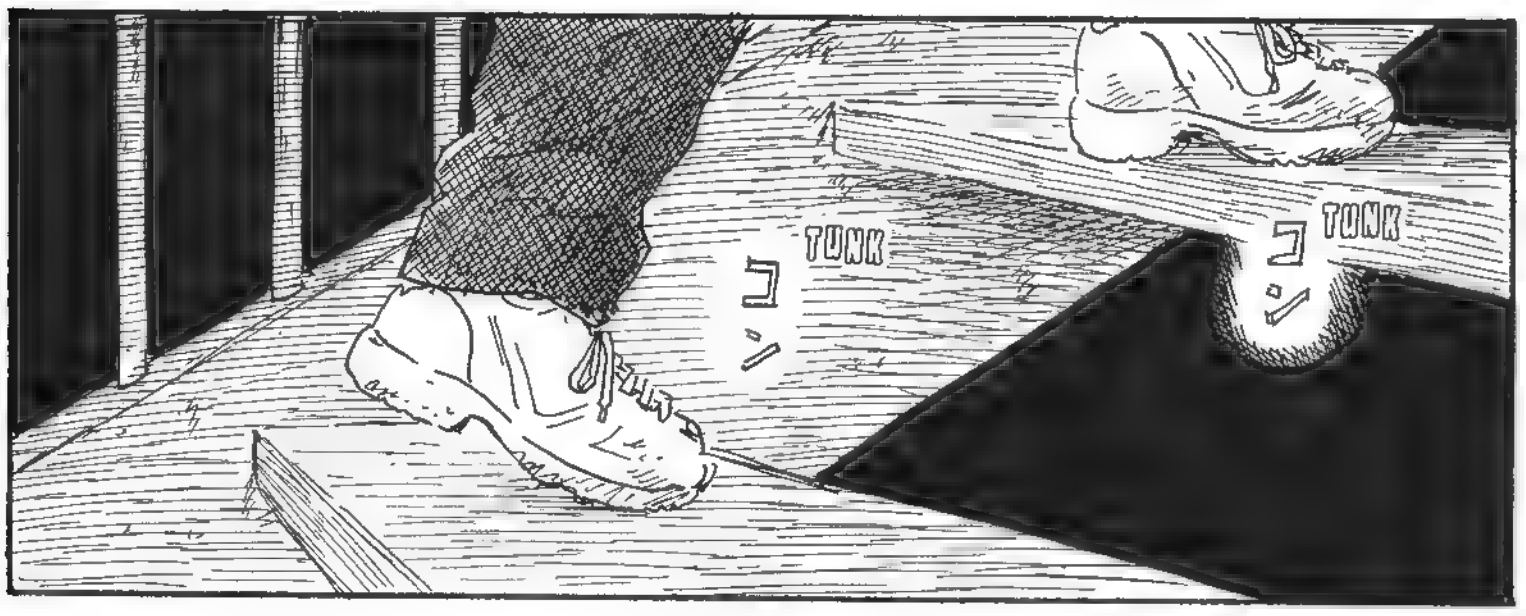
I'VE ALREADY

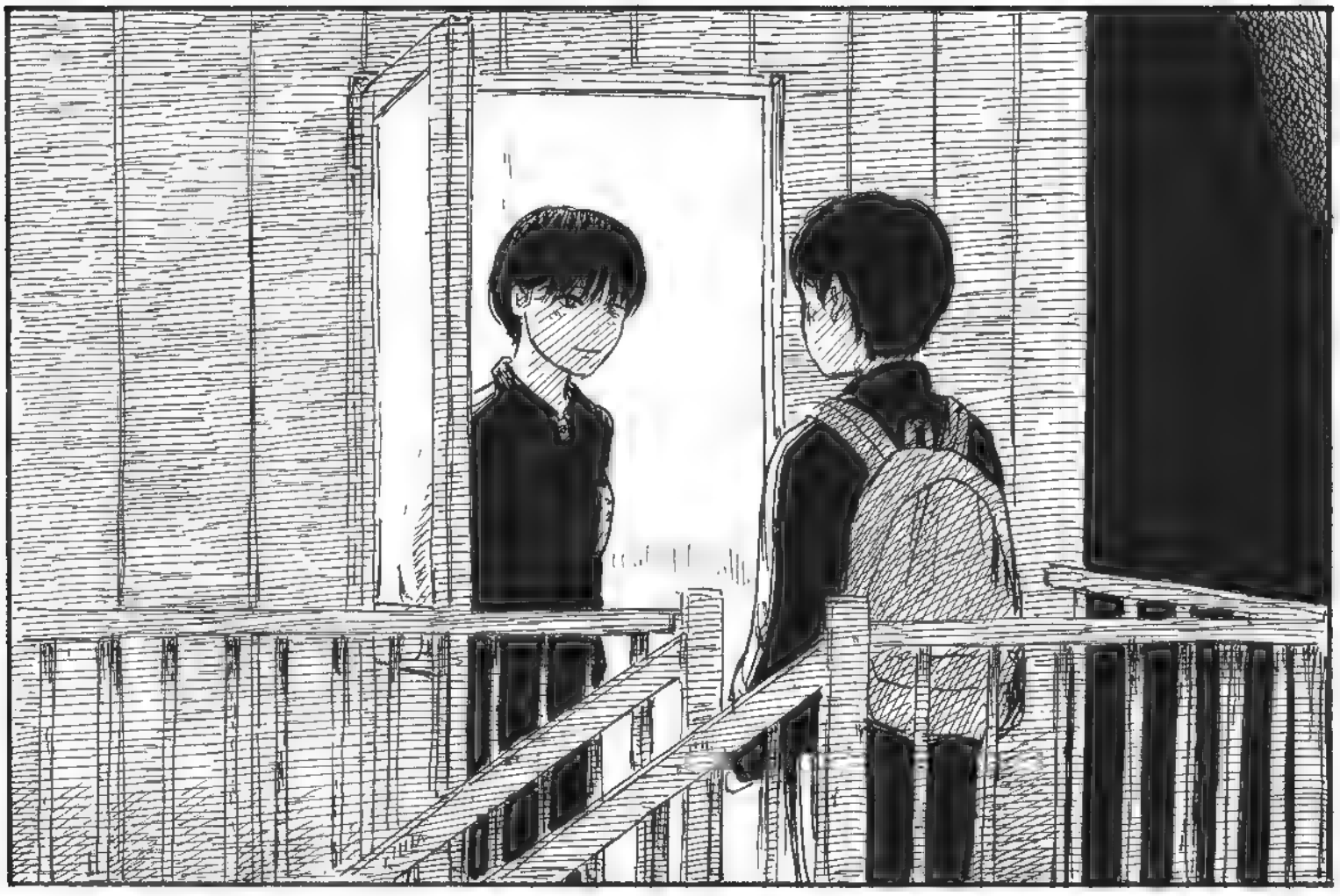
DITCH...

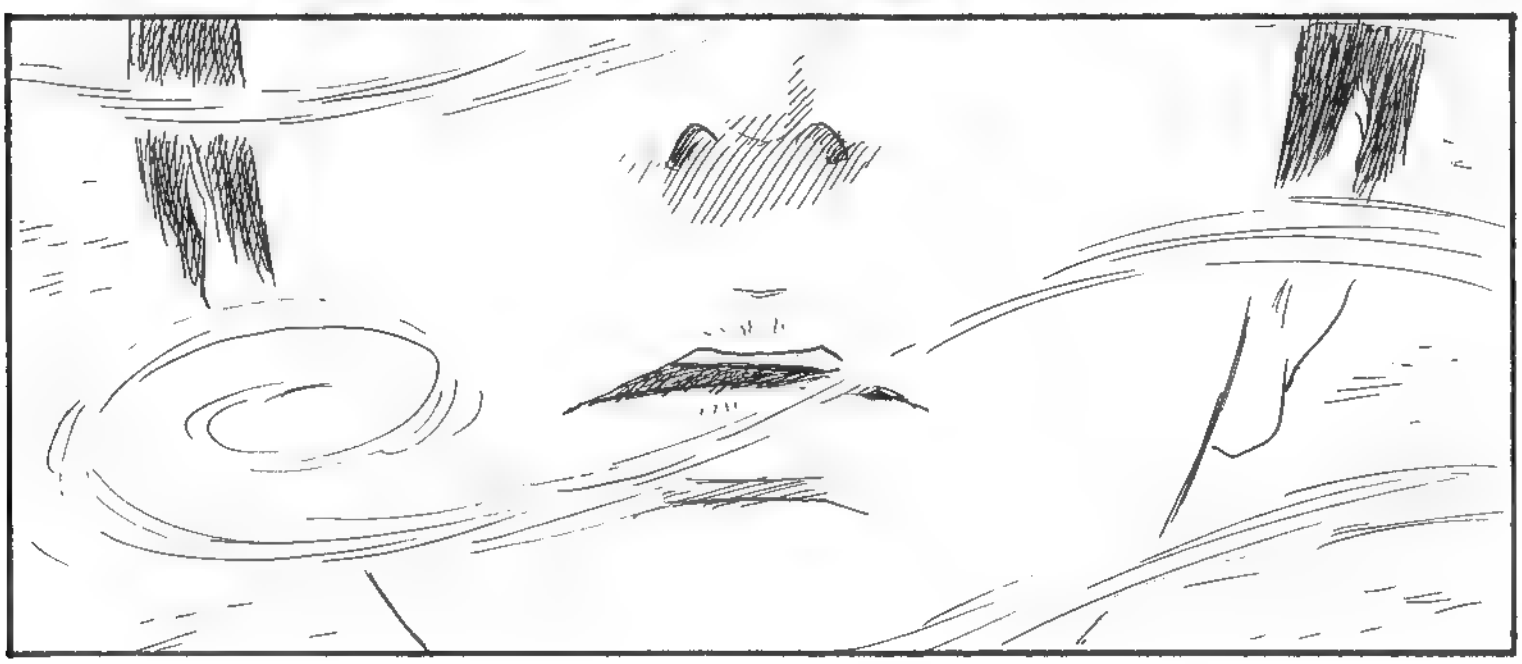

OSABE!

OSABE

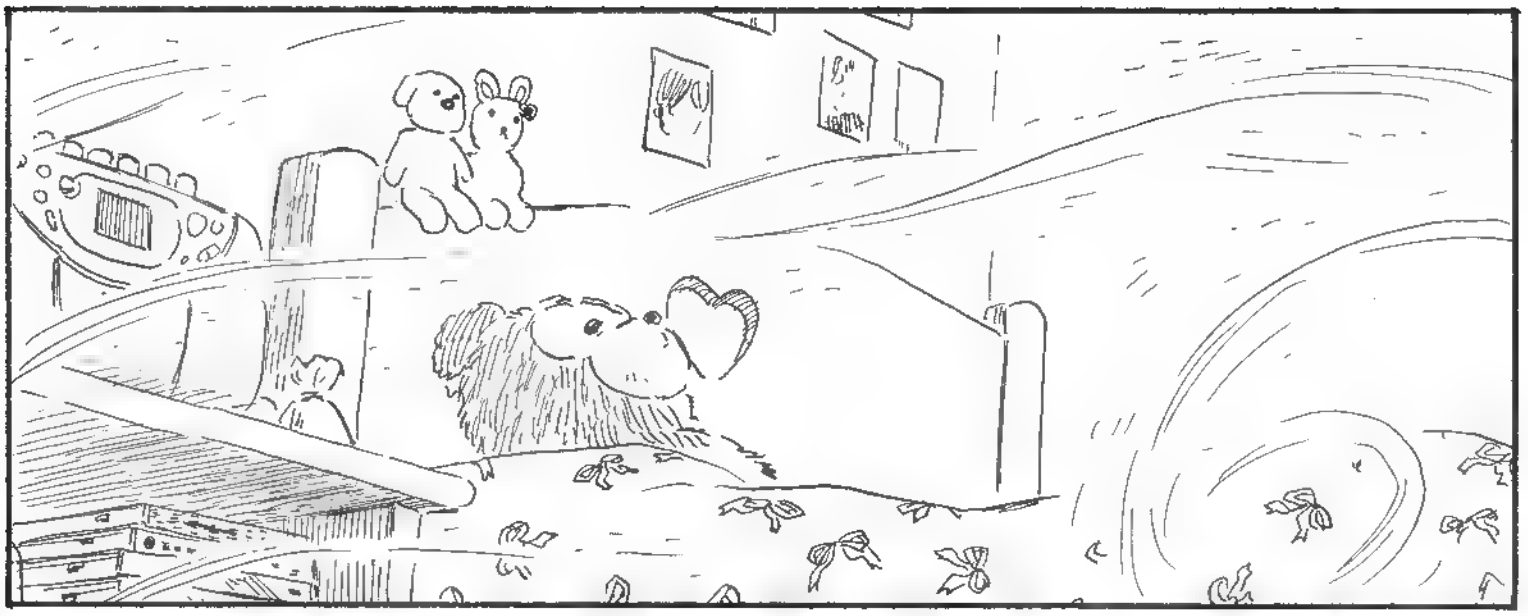


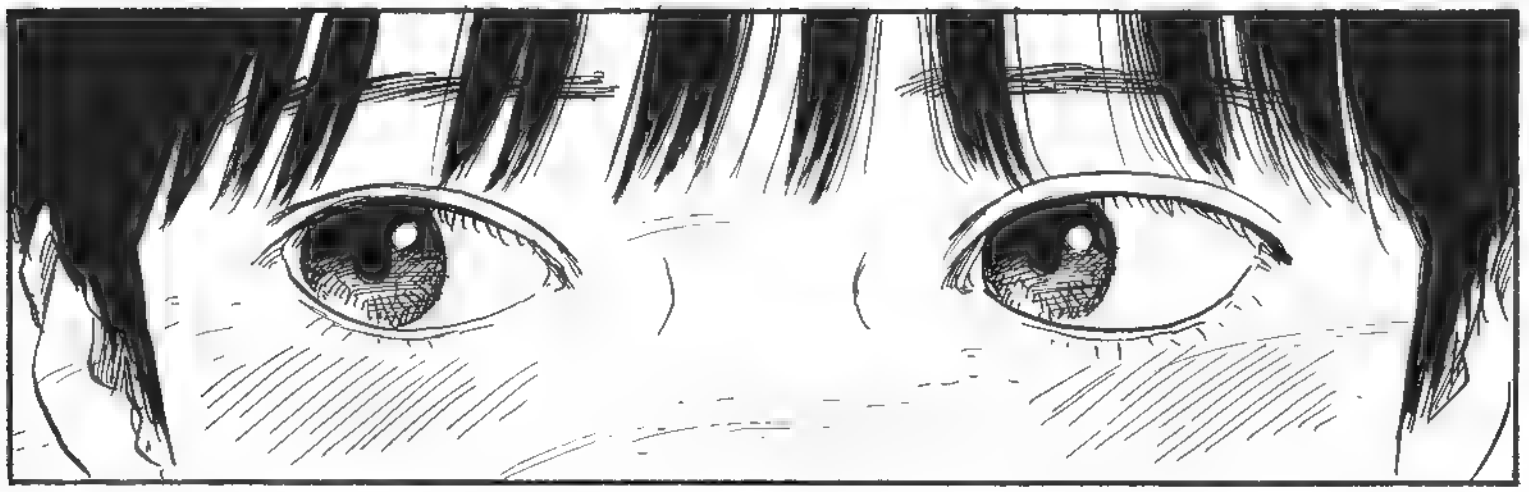

TONK
TONK

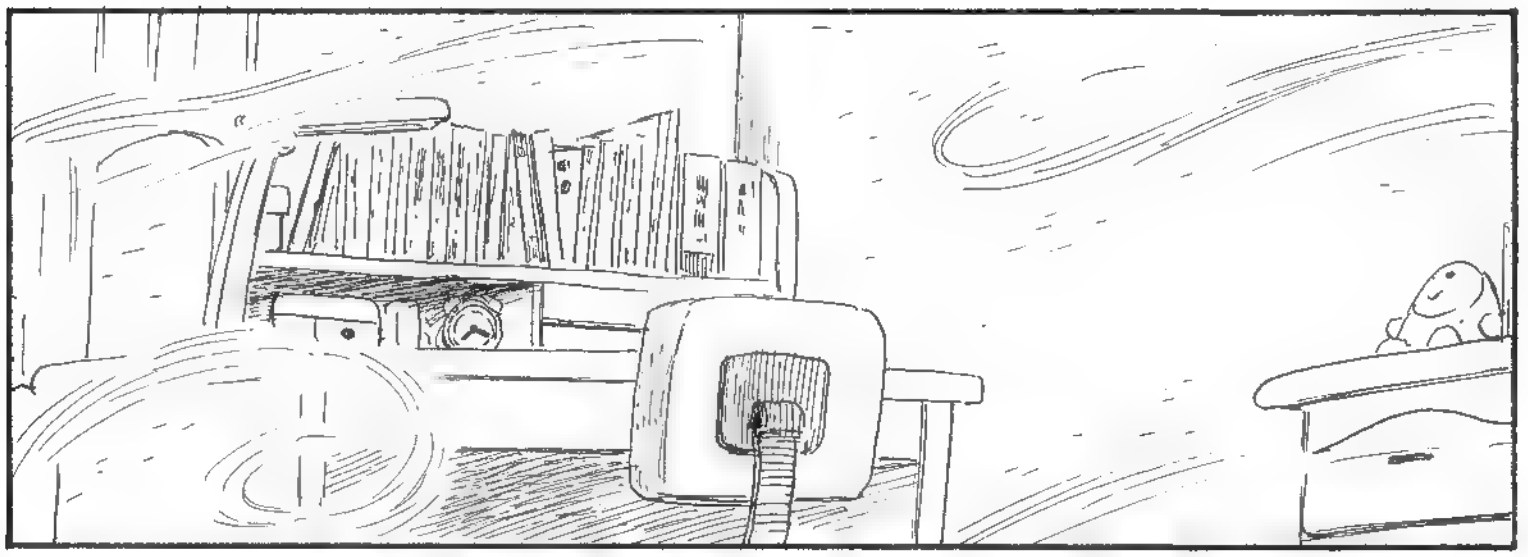


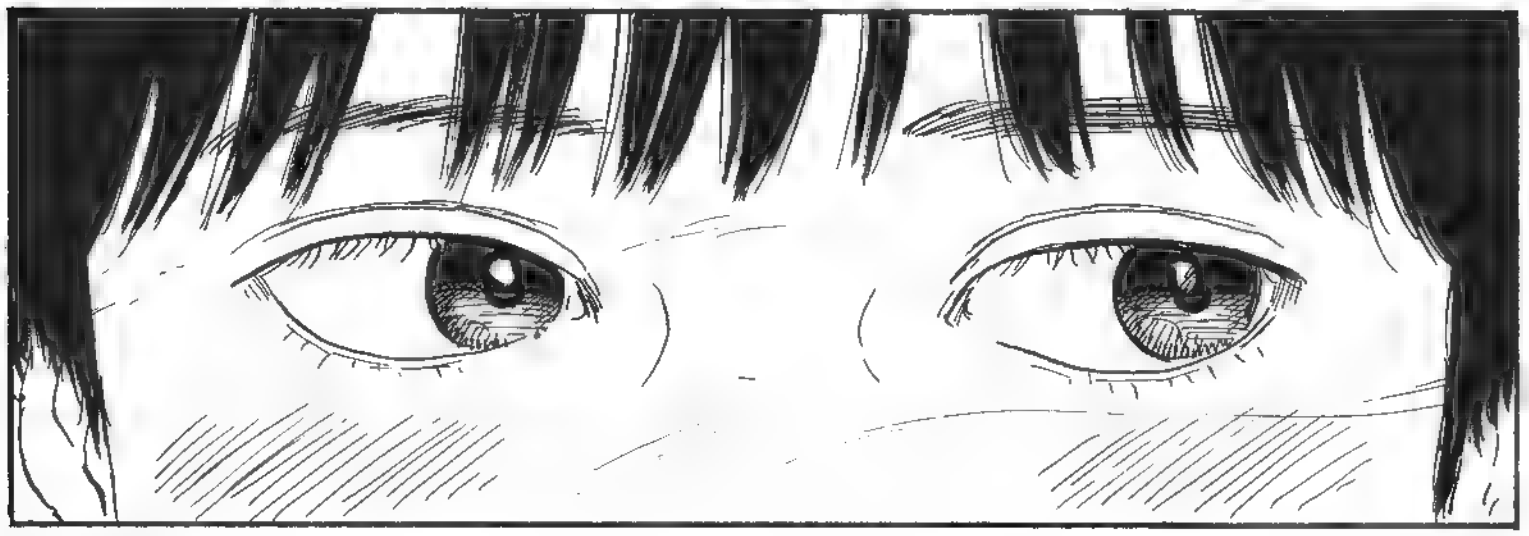


WE GET TO BE TOGETHER ALL NIGHT TOO.
THIS WAY,









CHAPTER 35 Her Room

HFFF...

...

とて TP

とて TP

とて TP

CHIK

カチャ

2-1
FUKUSHI
MY DAD'S
OUT DRINKING.

HERE.

OSABE

SO DON'T WORRY.

AND GRANDMA'S GOING TO BED.

AREN'T YOU HUNGRY? HAVE ONE.

I JUST MADE THESE.

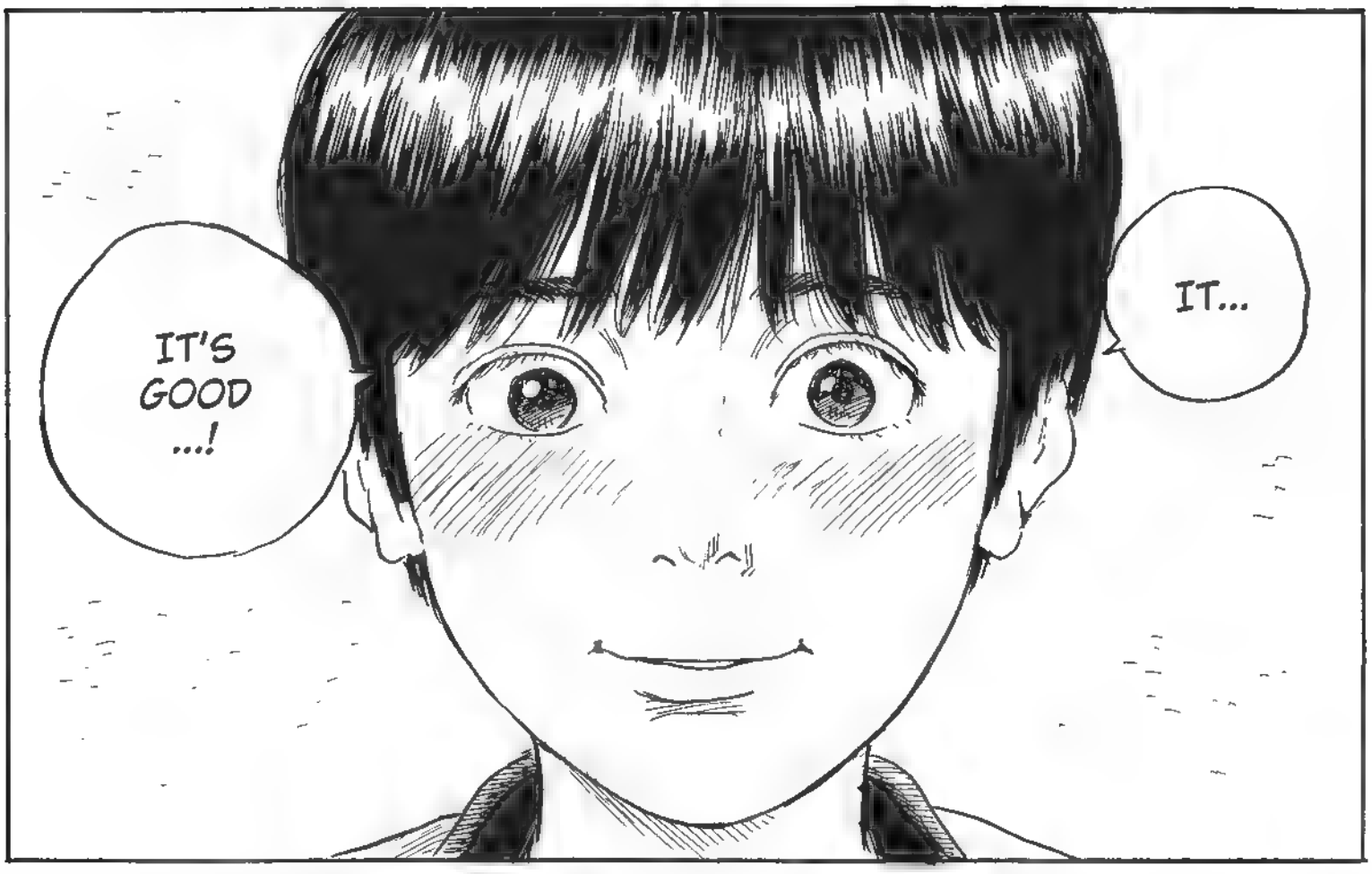
...OH...

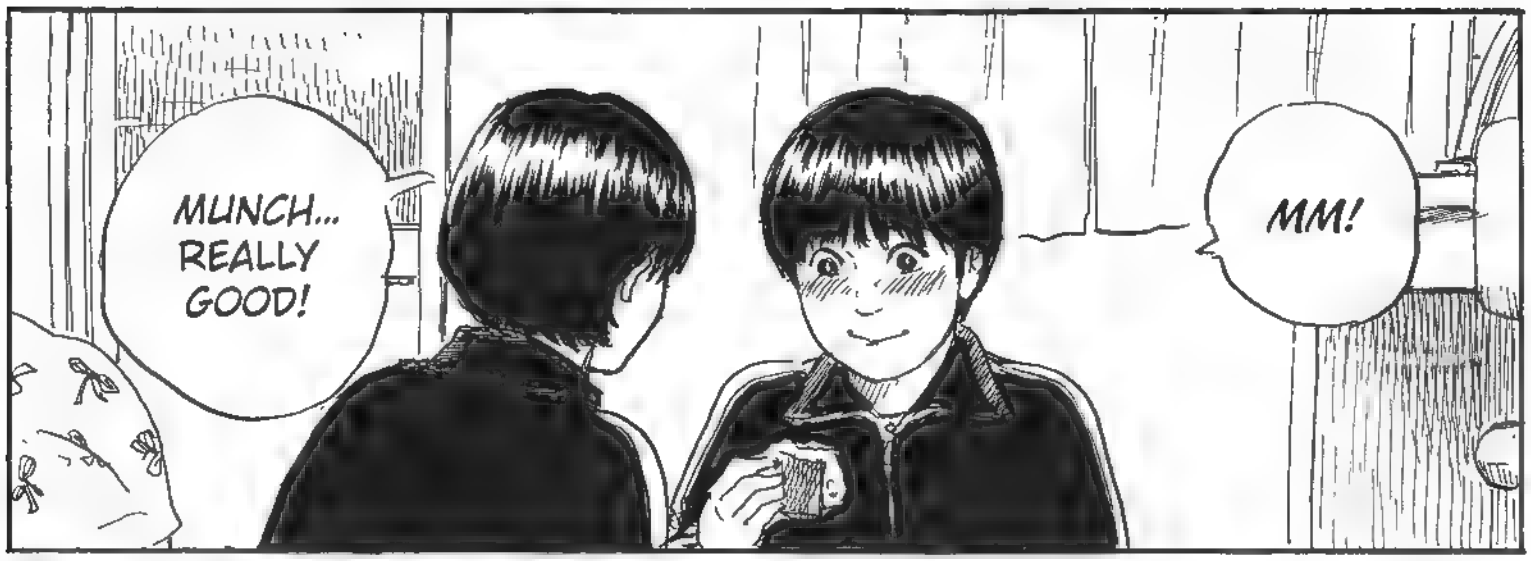
THANKS...

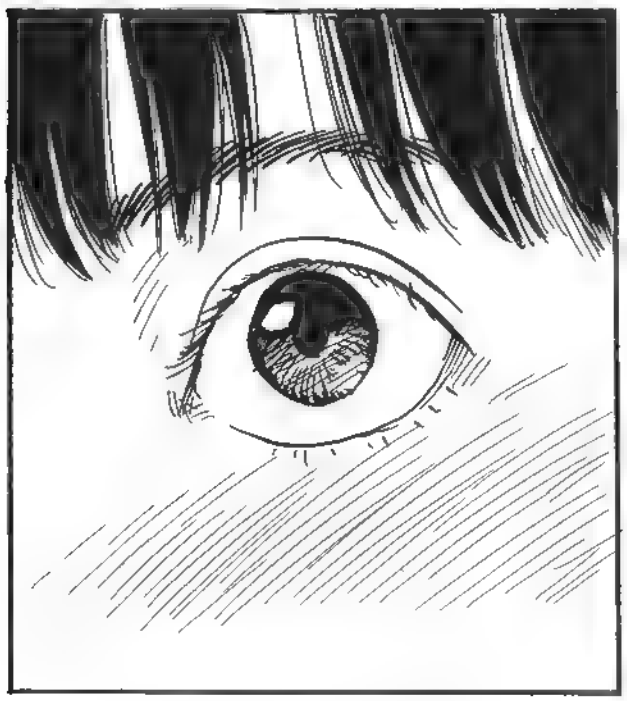
もぐ
CHOMP

HOW IS IT?

MNCH
もぐ
MNCH
もぐ

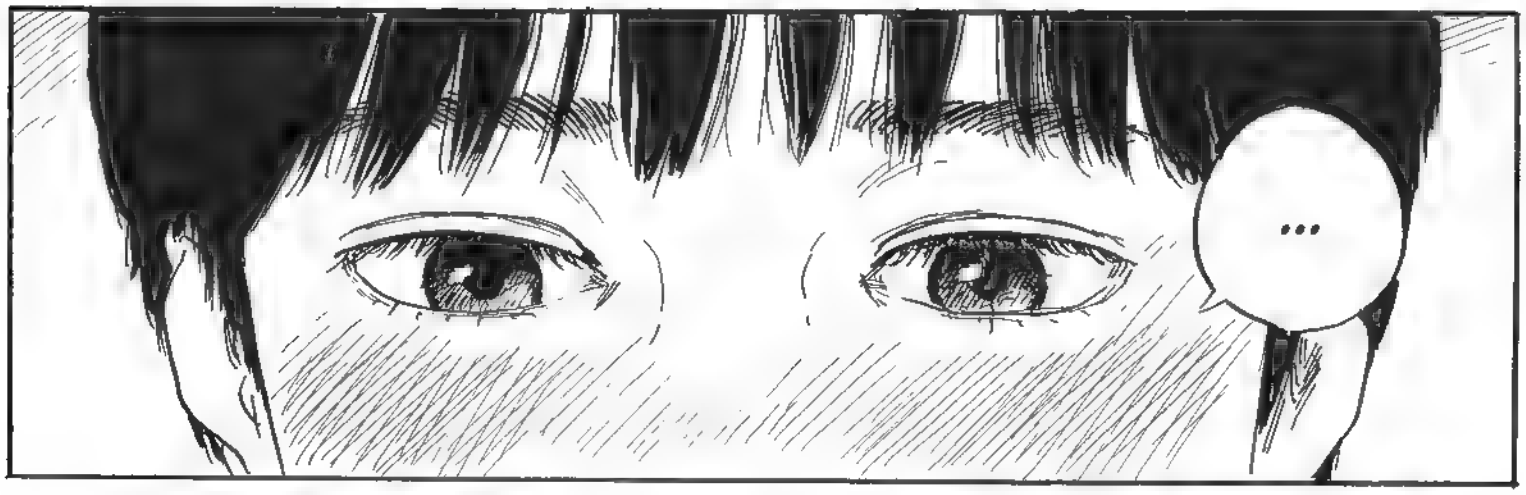

IT'S GOOD ...!
IT...

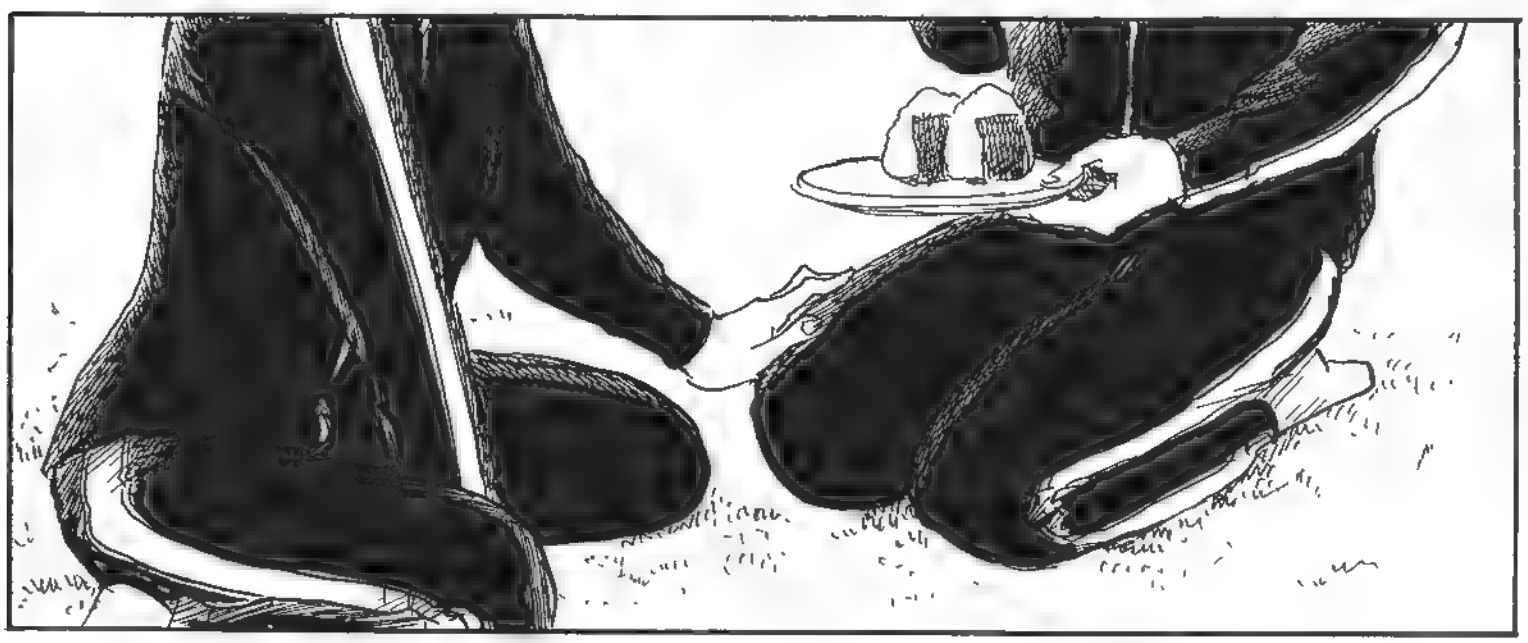

MUNCH... REALLY GOOD!
MM!



...YOU'RE CUTE.

OSABE.
YOU'RE SO CUTE,


...



TA-TA-TA-
TWANG

TA-TA-TA-
TWANG

TA-TA-TA-
TWANG

We'll drink it together on a promenade

Darling, why don't you bring some Ramune to share

And chat until we see the moon up there

FWEE

FWEE FWEE

FWEE FWEE

FWEE

DO YOU KNOW IT?

DMM DA DMM DA

TA-TA-TA-TWANG

TA-TA-TA-TWANG

THIS SONG IS MY FAVORITE.

I'VE NEVER... LISTENED TO MUSIC ALL THAT MUCH.

TSH TSH

...NOPE.

DA DA DA DA

Nichiyobi

PUNCH OUT

...WHAT DO YOU THINK?

la-dee-doo-lay-lee
la-dee-doo-lay-lee
la-dee-doo-lay-lee-lee

IT'S GOOD...

YEAH...

TA-TA-TA-TWANG

TA-TA-TA-TWANG

RIGHT?

HEE HEE

TA-TA-TA-TWANG

IT'S TEN ALREADY.

I'M GONNA TAKE A BATH, OKAY?

OH!

HUH?

OH... NO...

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

DO YOU WANNA TAKE ONE?

...YEAH, GOOD POINT.

I'LL SKIP IT.

WHAT IF I GOT CAUGHT...

CLACK

OSABE

I'LL BE BACK.

OKAY... THEN JUST WAIT HERE.

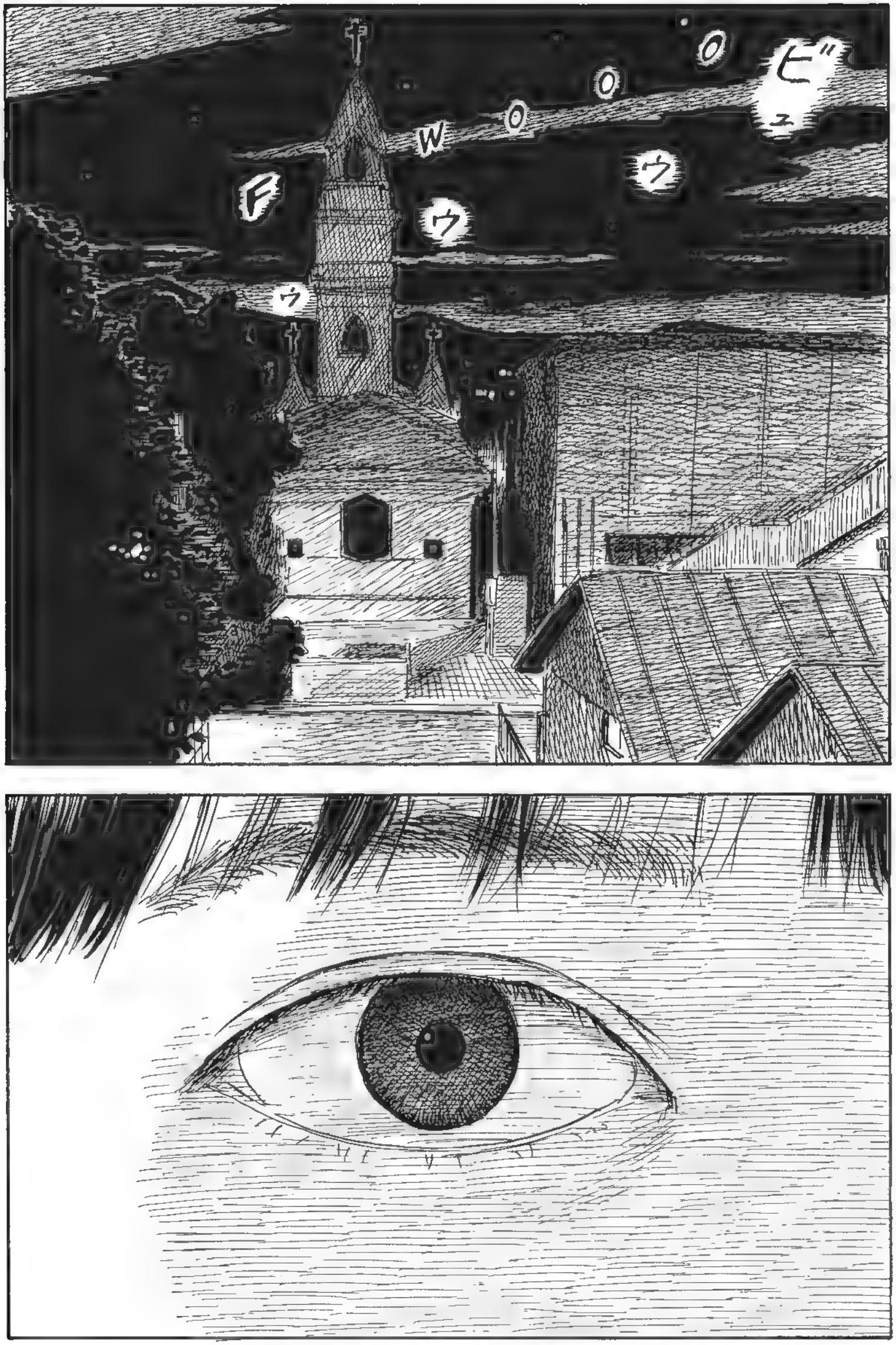
TIK カチ

TOK コチ

TIK カチ

TOK コチ

TIK カチ
TOK コチ
TIK カチ
TOK コチ
SWISH シャラ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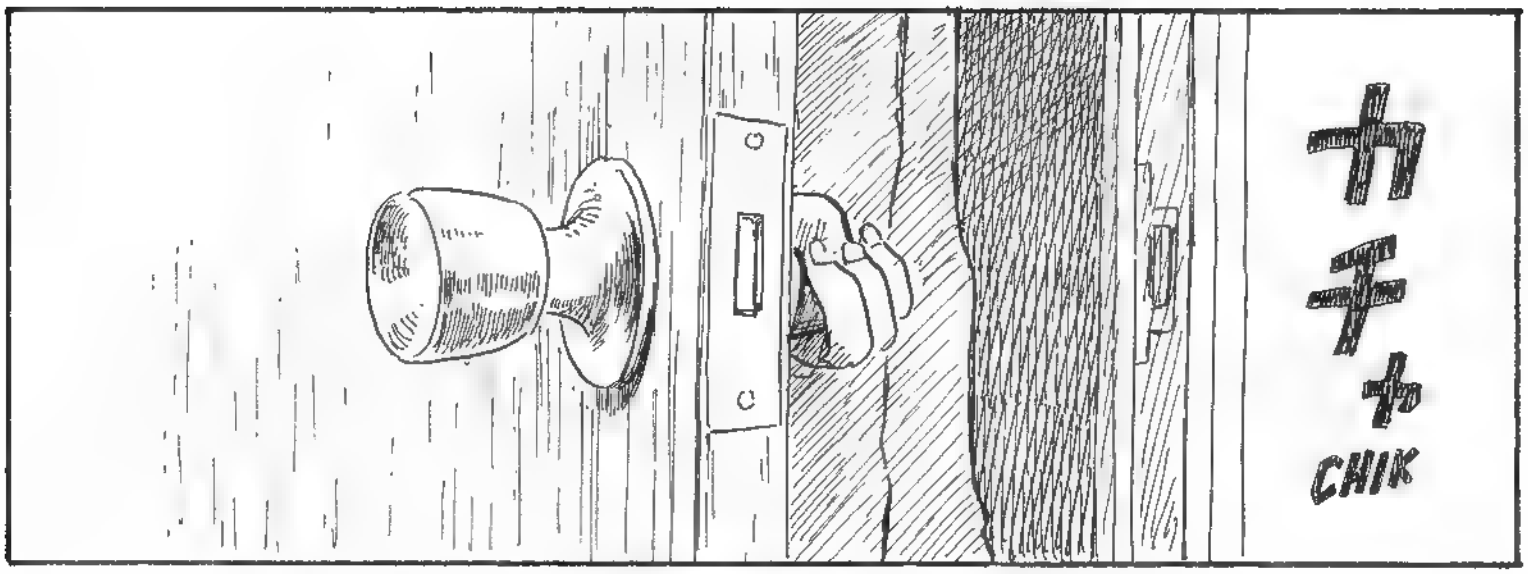
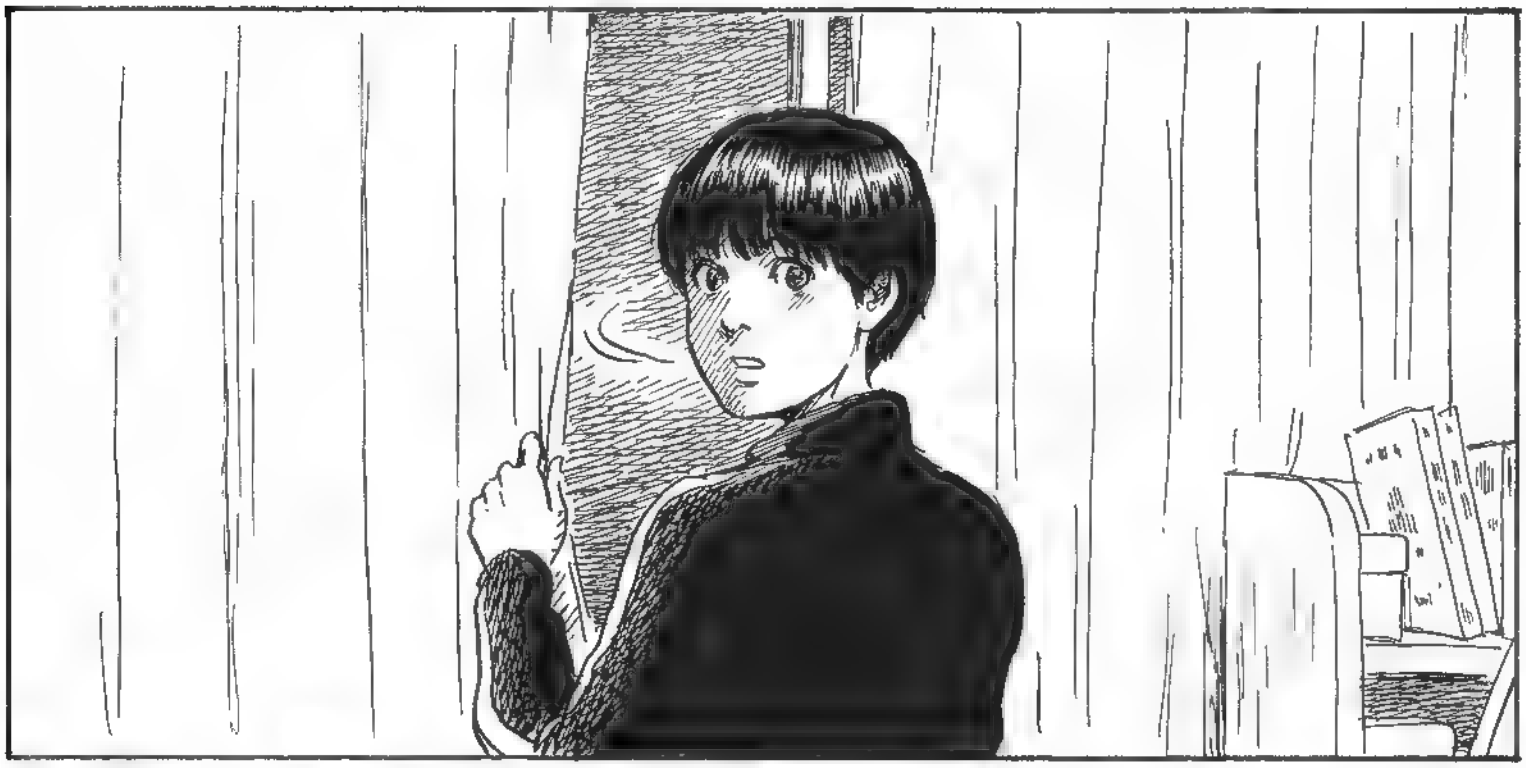
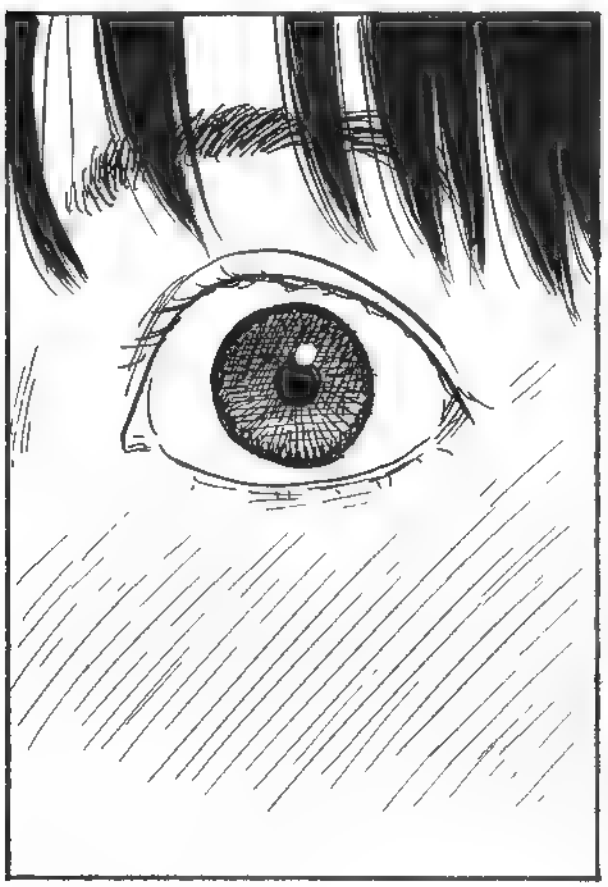

CHIK





CLACK

WHAT WERE YOU LOOKING AT?

...OKAY,

UH... NOTHING...

...OH...

READY FOR BED?

WELL,

WHERE ARE YOU GONNA SLEEP?

WELL... I CAN JUST...

SLEEP ON THE FLOOR.

...UH...

BUT, WHAT IF MY DAD COMES IN?

HE'LL SEE YOU RIGHT AWAY...

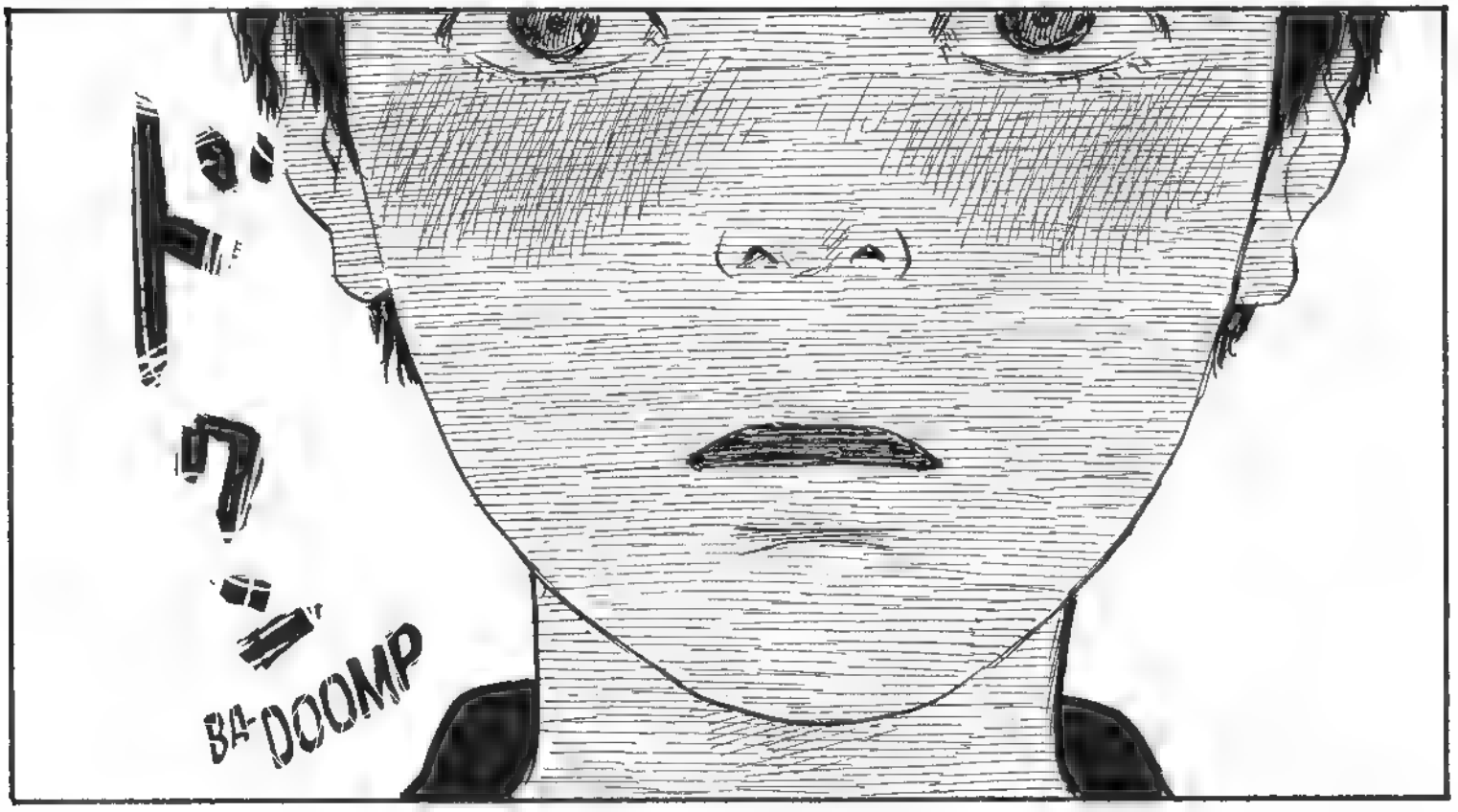
YEAH...
TRUE...

...Y-

YOU WANNA SLEEP WITH ME?

...THEN,

BOTH SLEEP IN MY BED.
WE CAN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ドン
BA-DOOMP

BA-DOOMP

BA-DOOMP

BA-DOOMP

BA-DOOMP

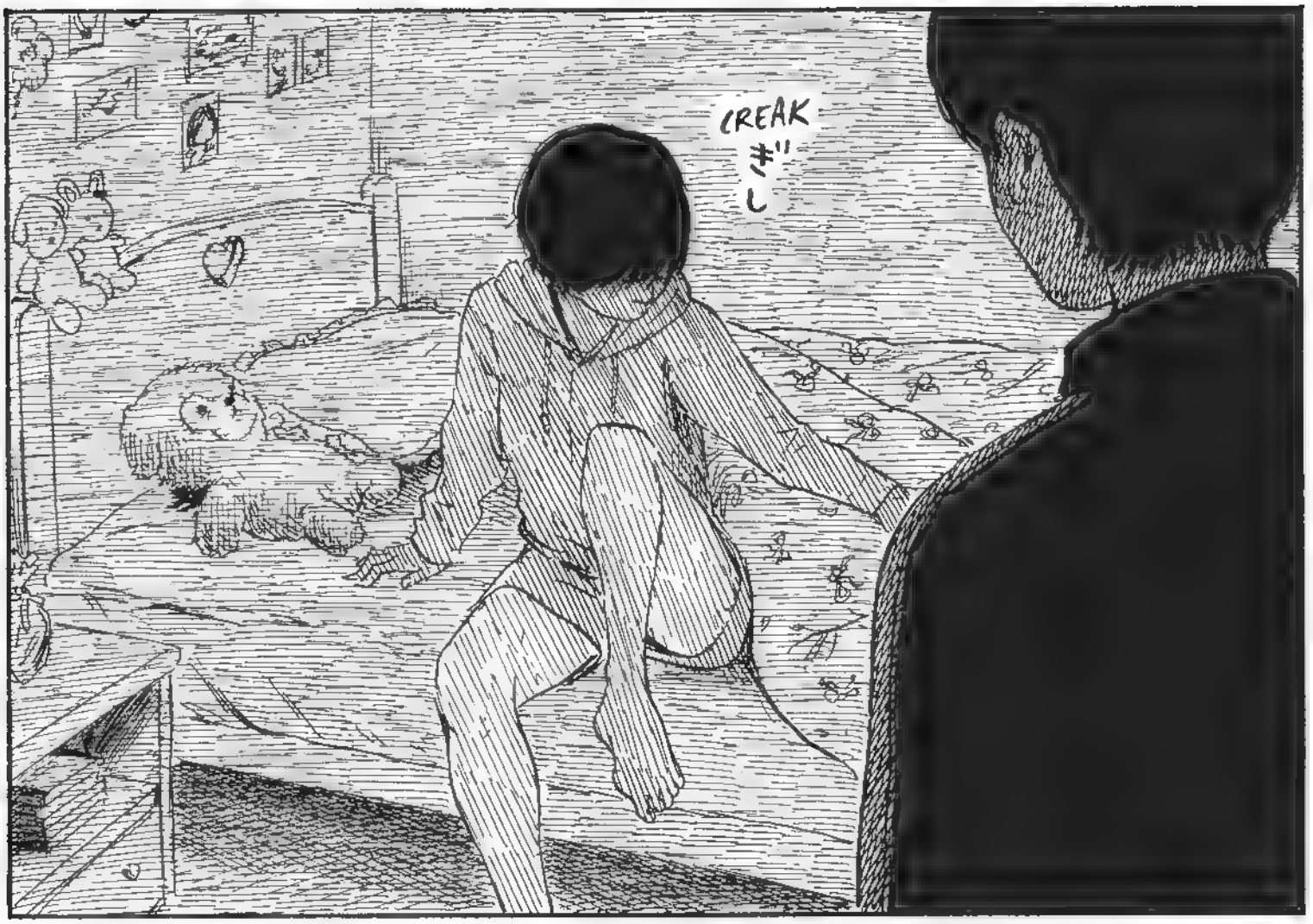
OK...

...UH...

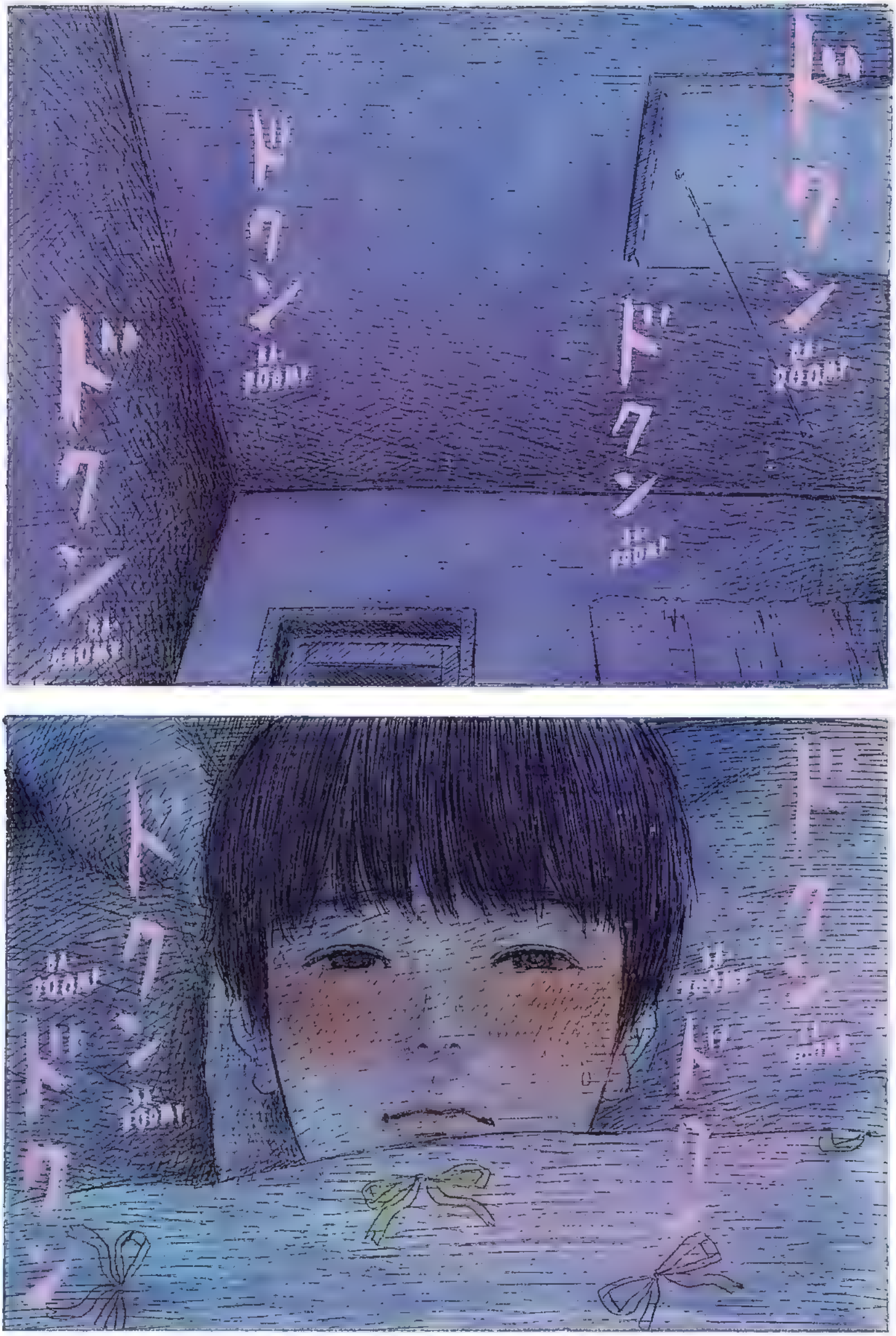
CHNK

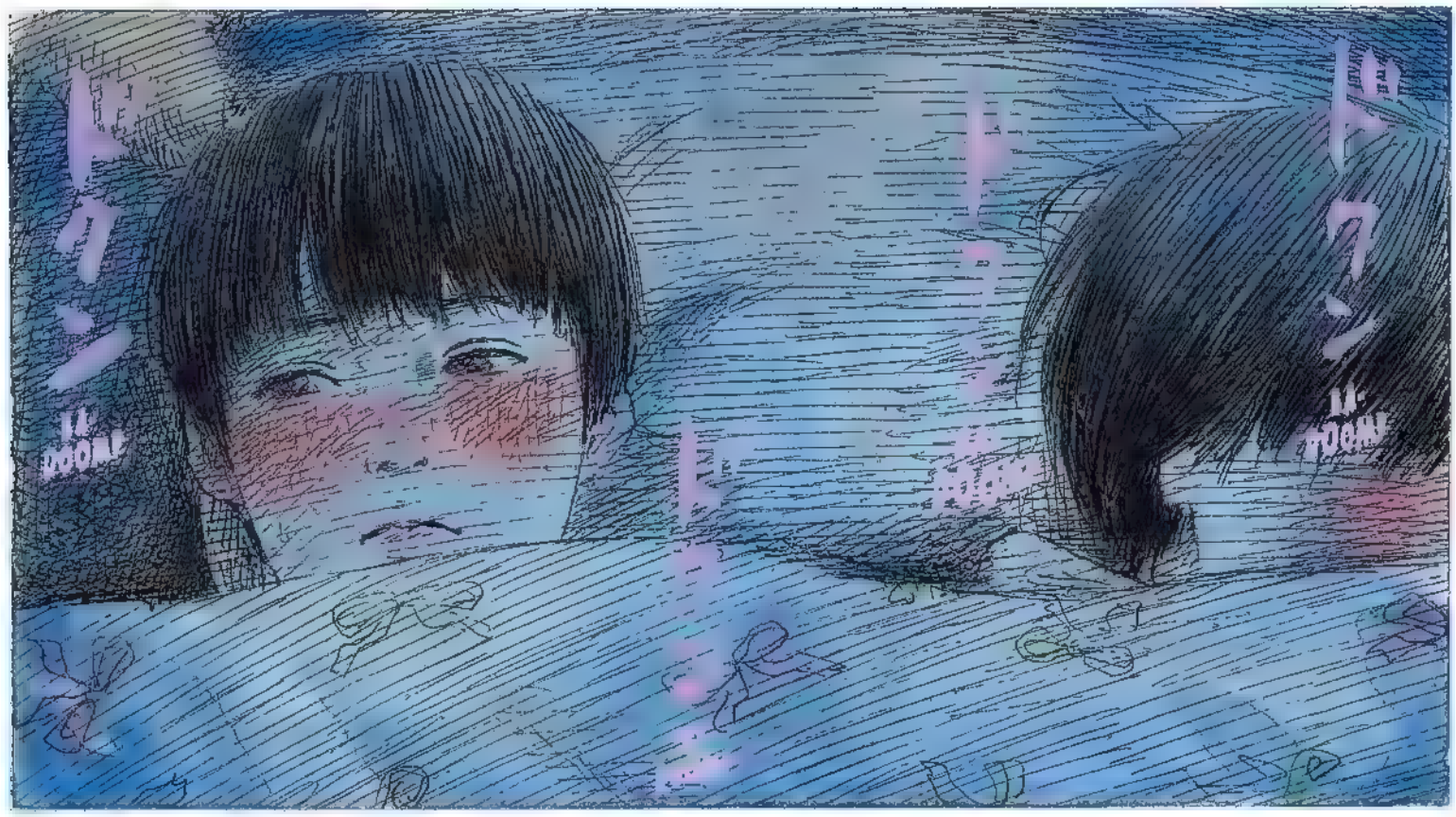
カチ

ン


CREAK
ギィ
SHOOP
スッ

ドドド




TINGLE
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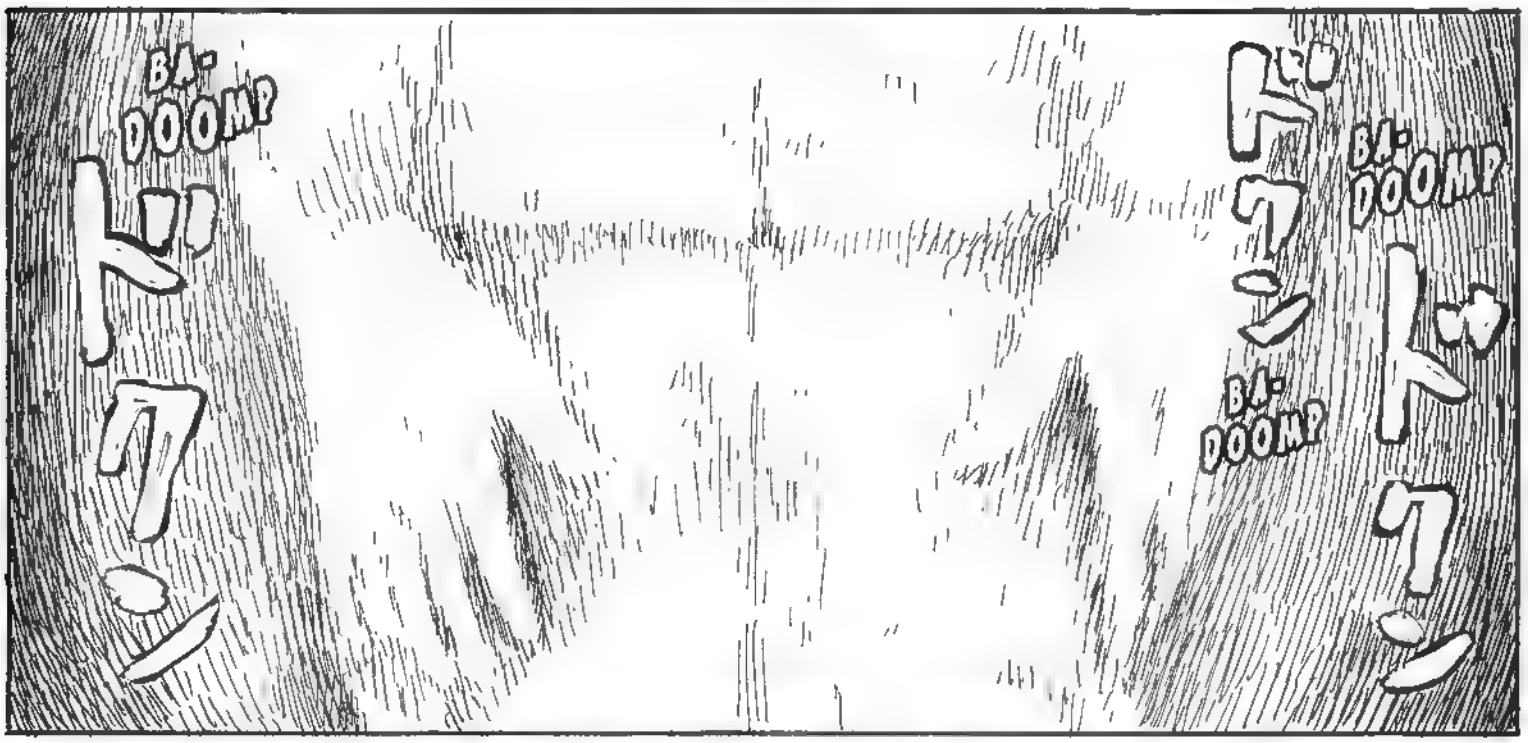
TINGLE
TINGLE

ドン
BA-DOOMP
ドン
BA-DOOMP


BA-DOOMP
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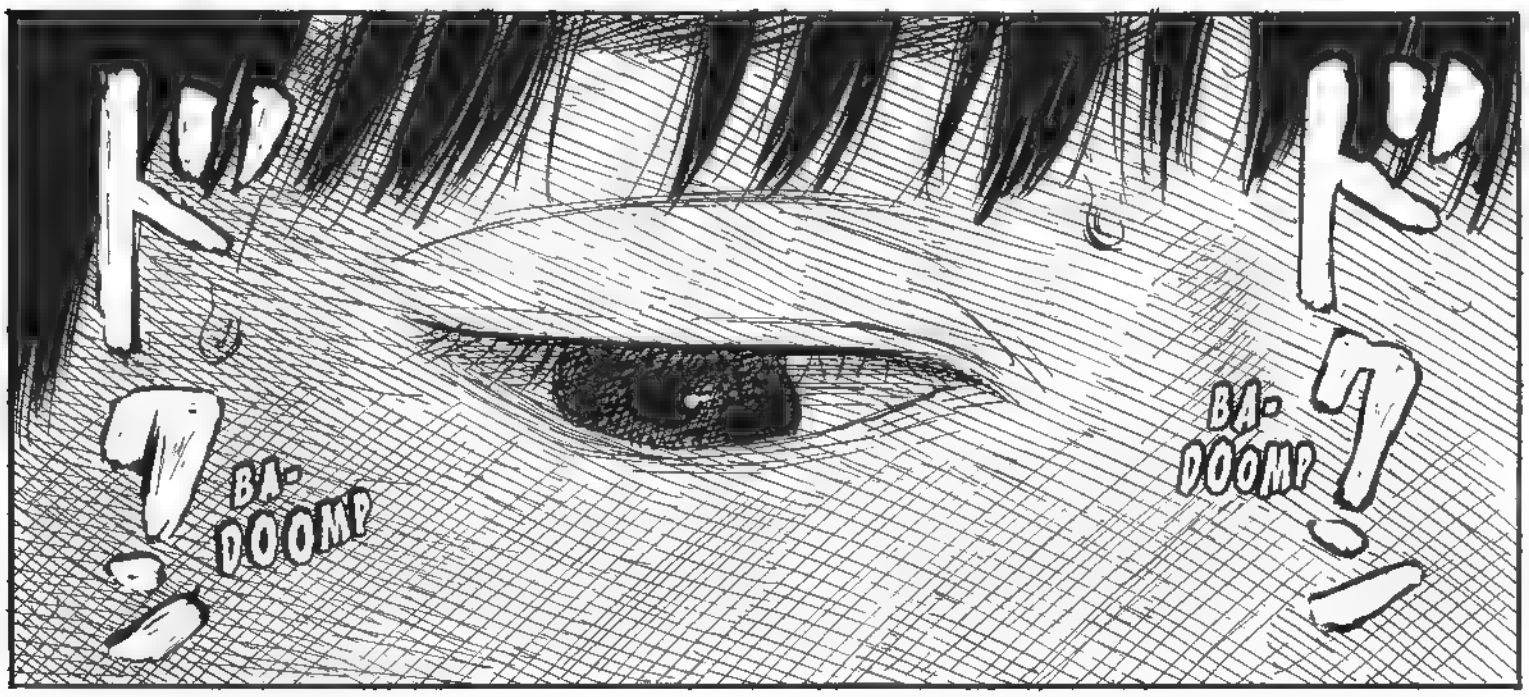
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BA-DOOMP
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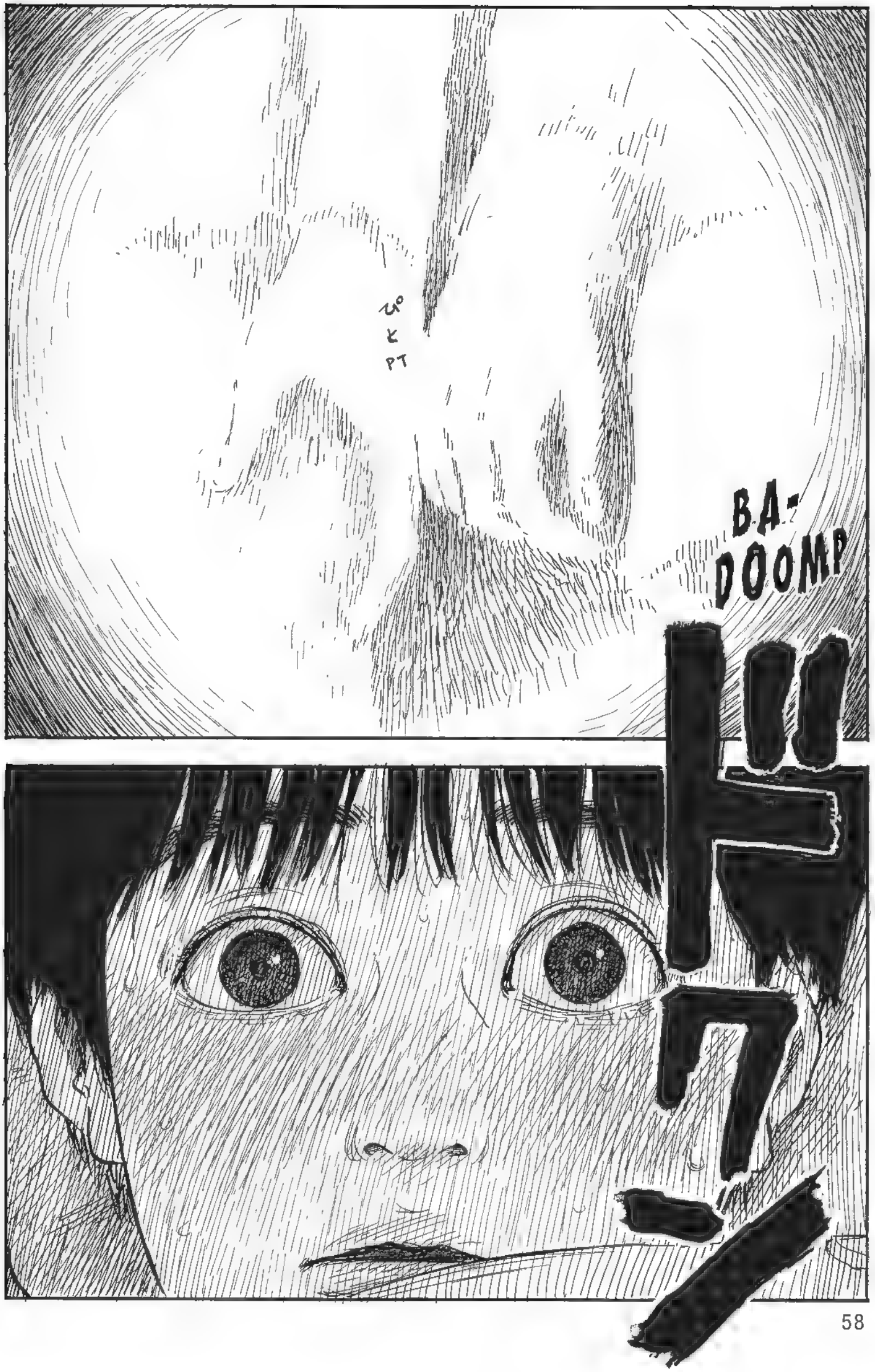
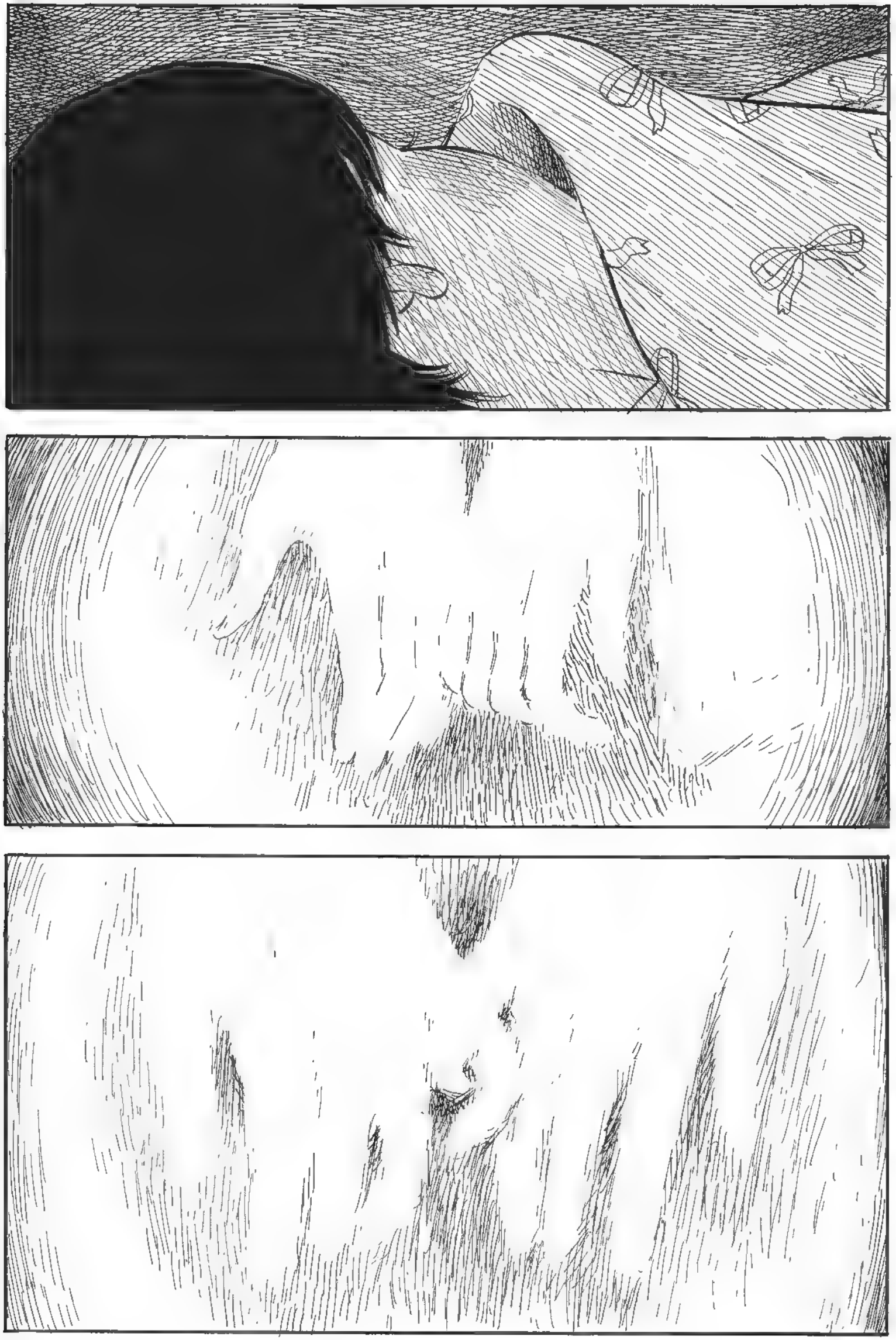
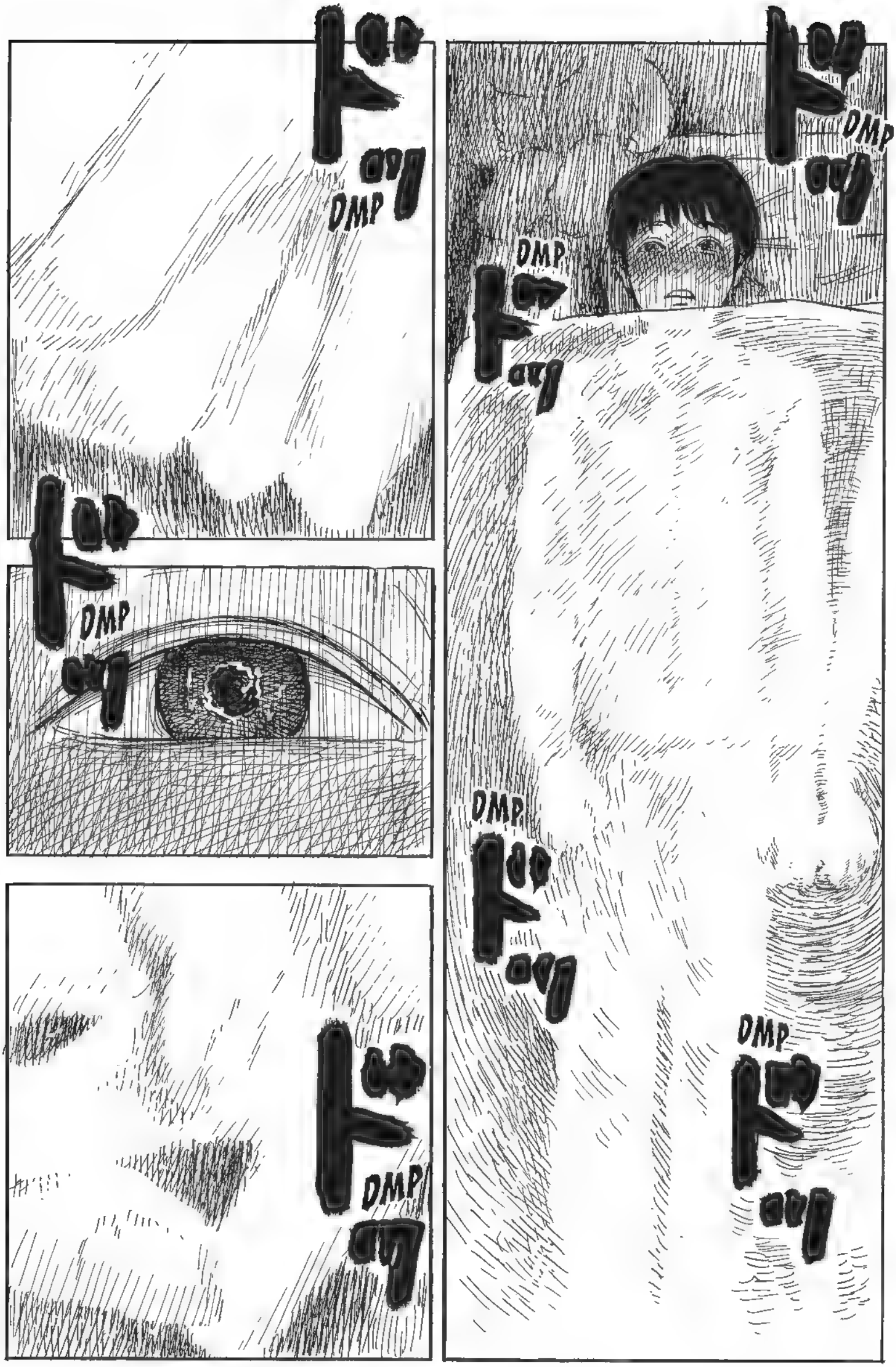
BA-DOOMP


BA-
DOOMP




DMP
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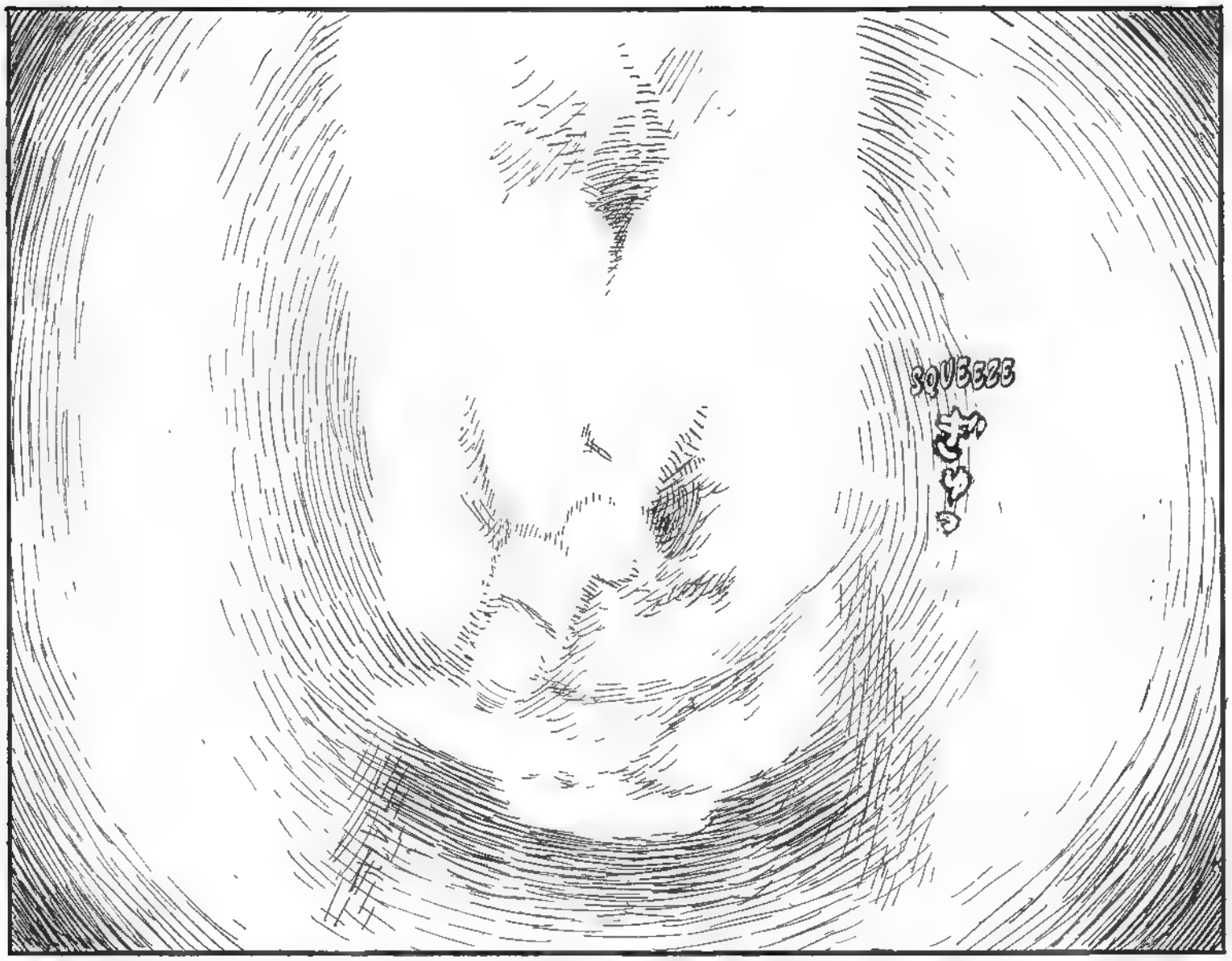
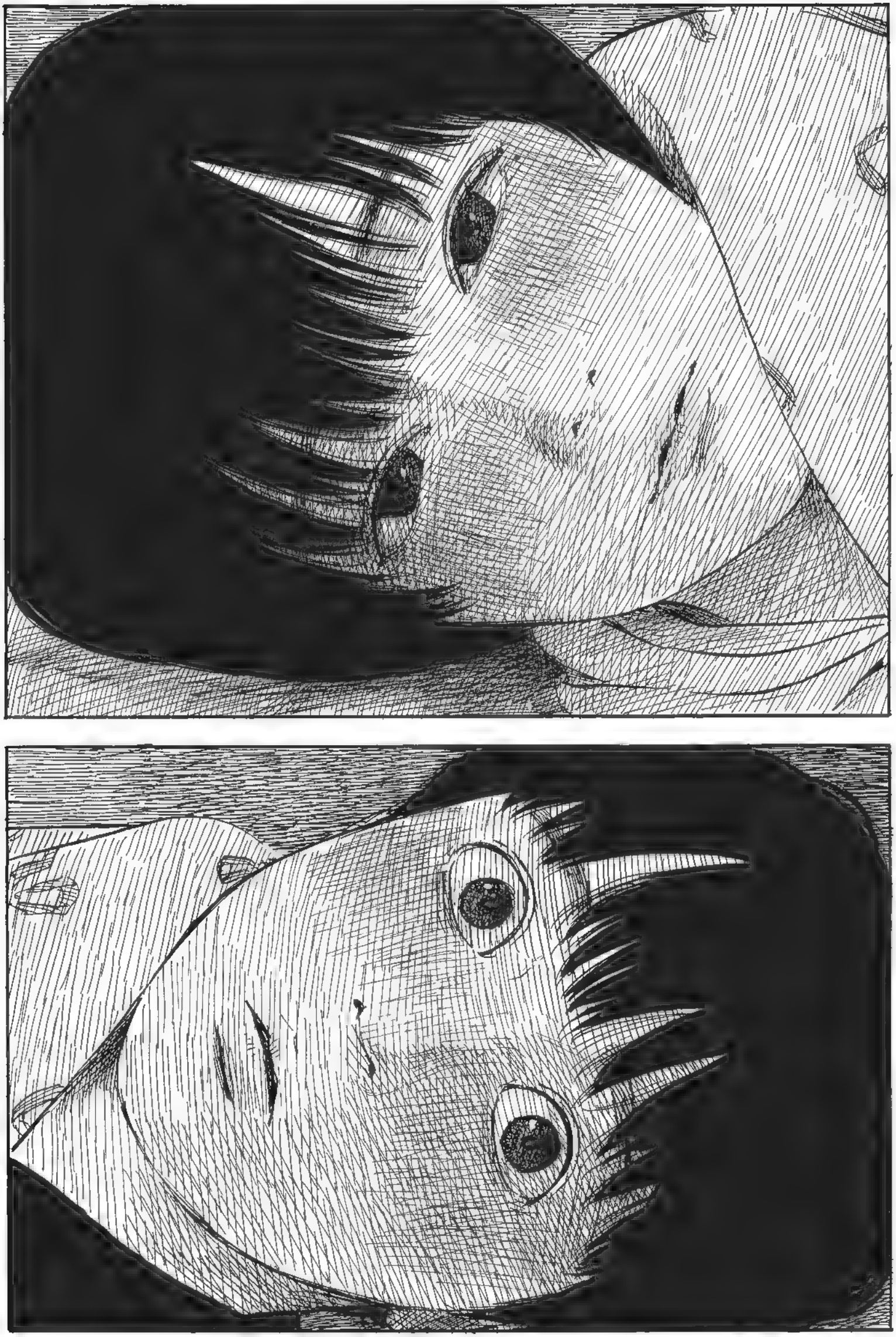
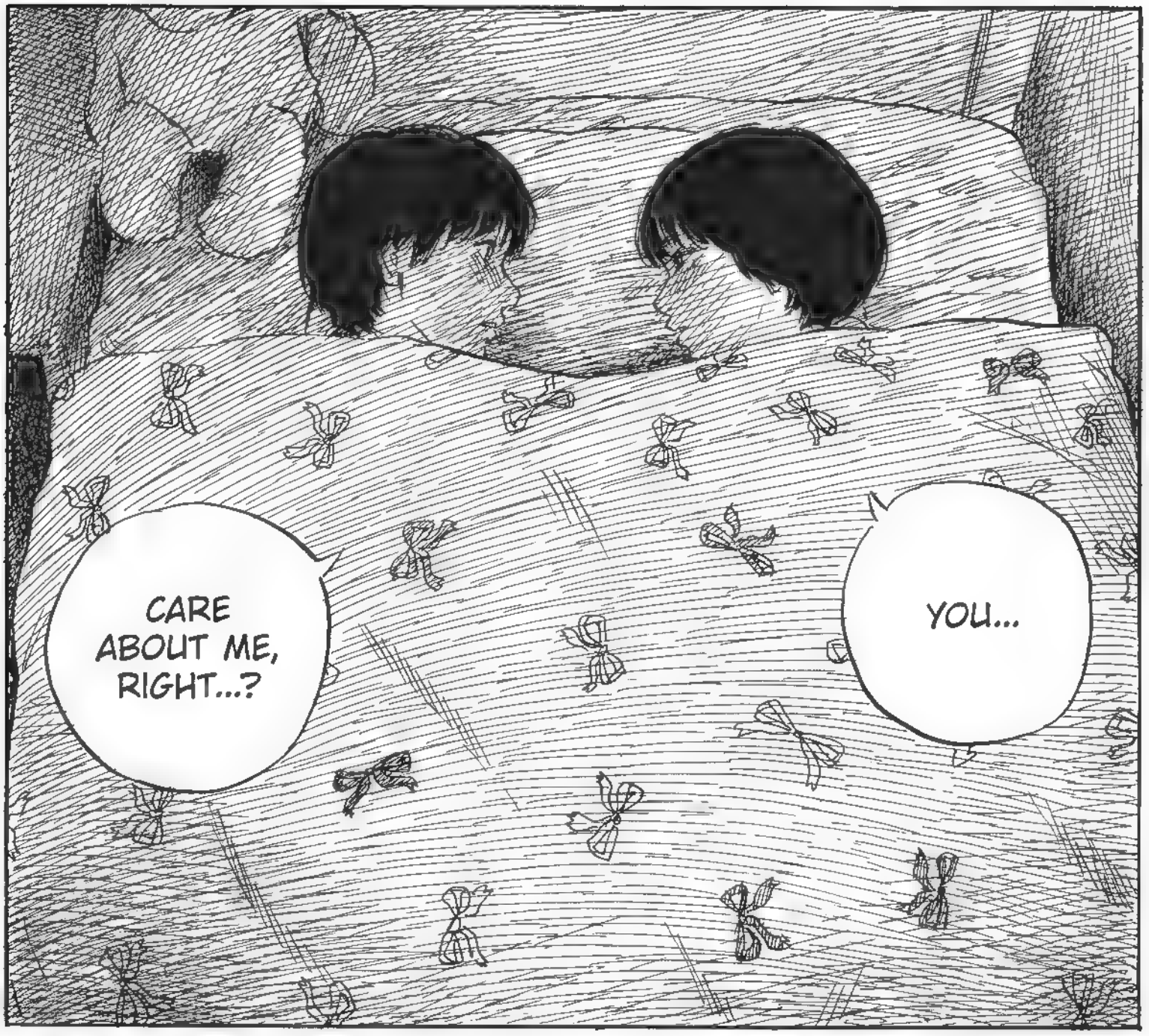
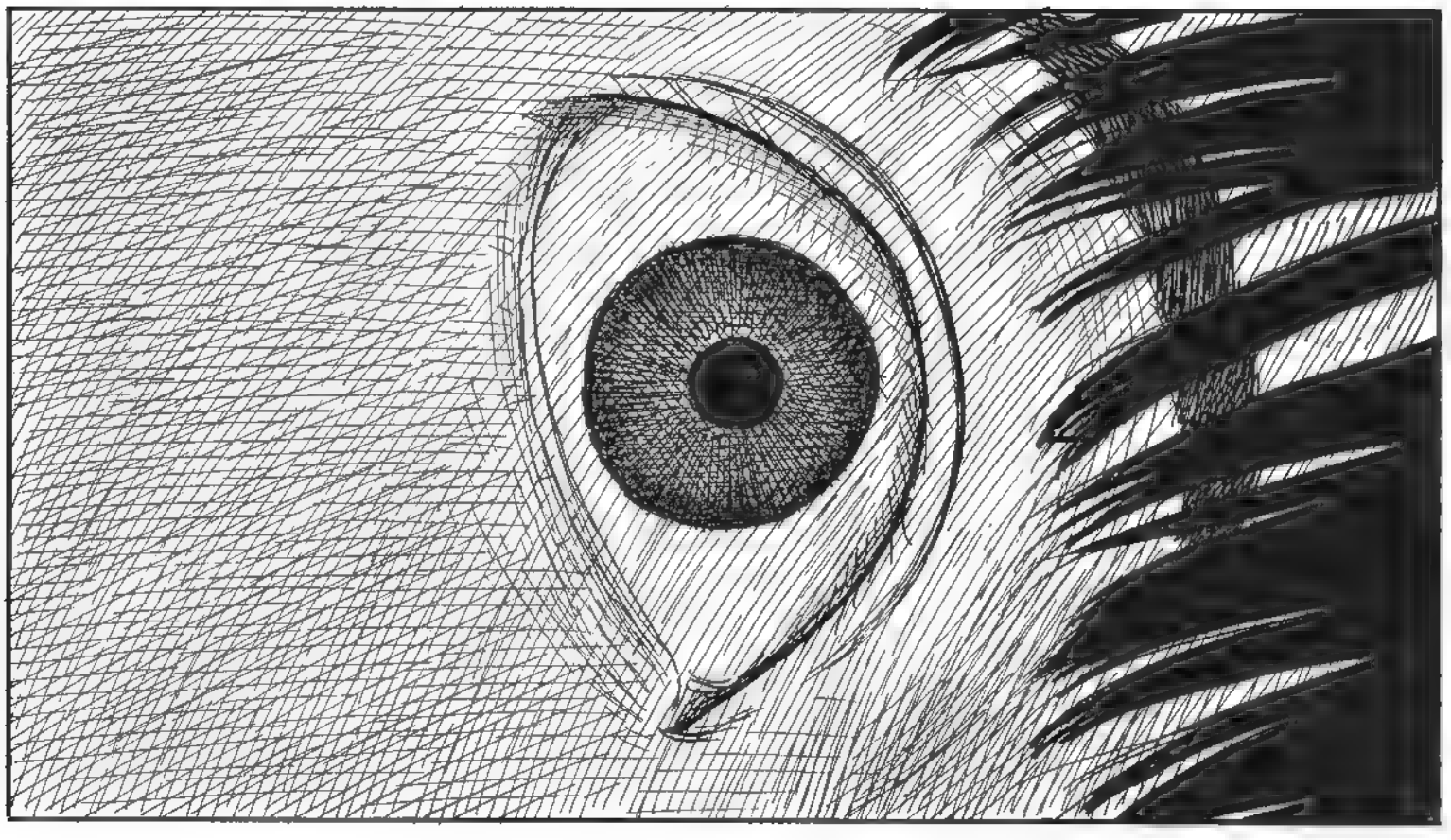
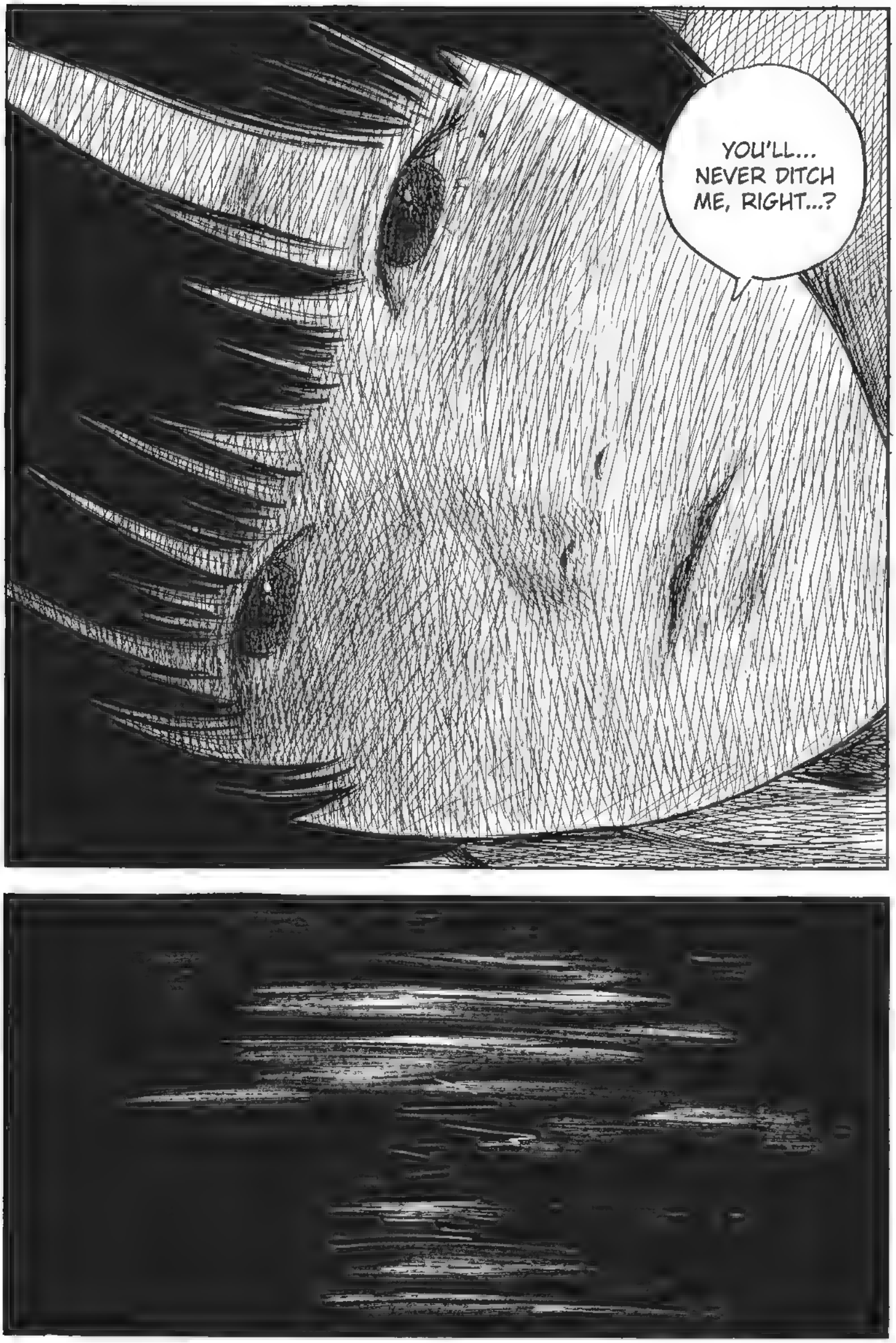
DMP

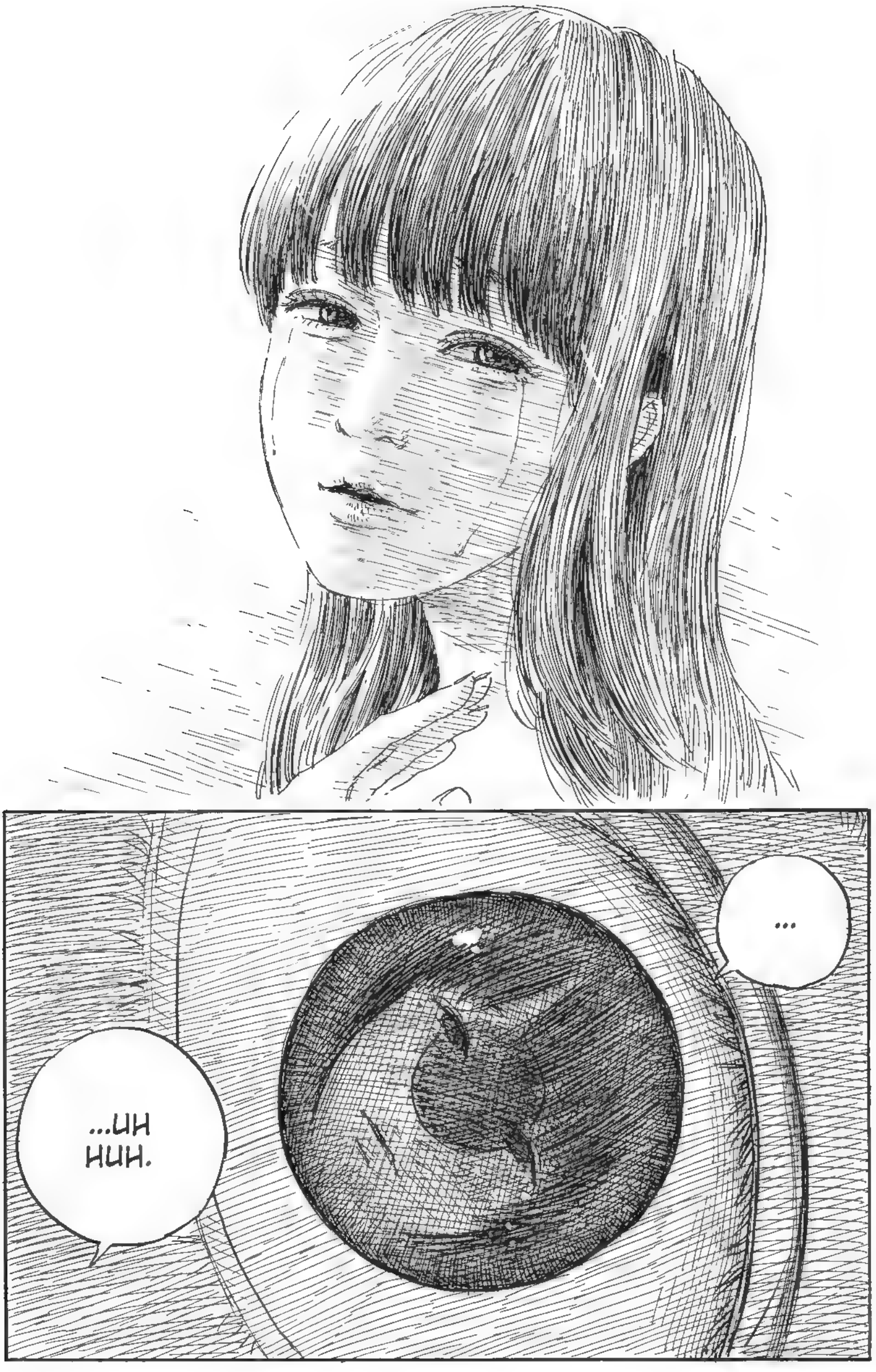

SQUEEZE

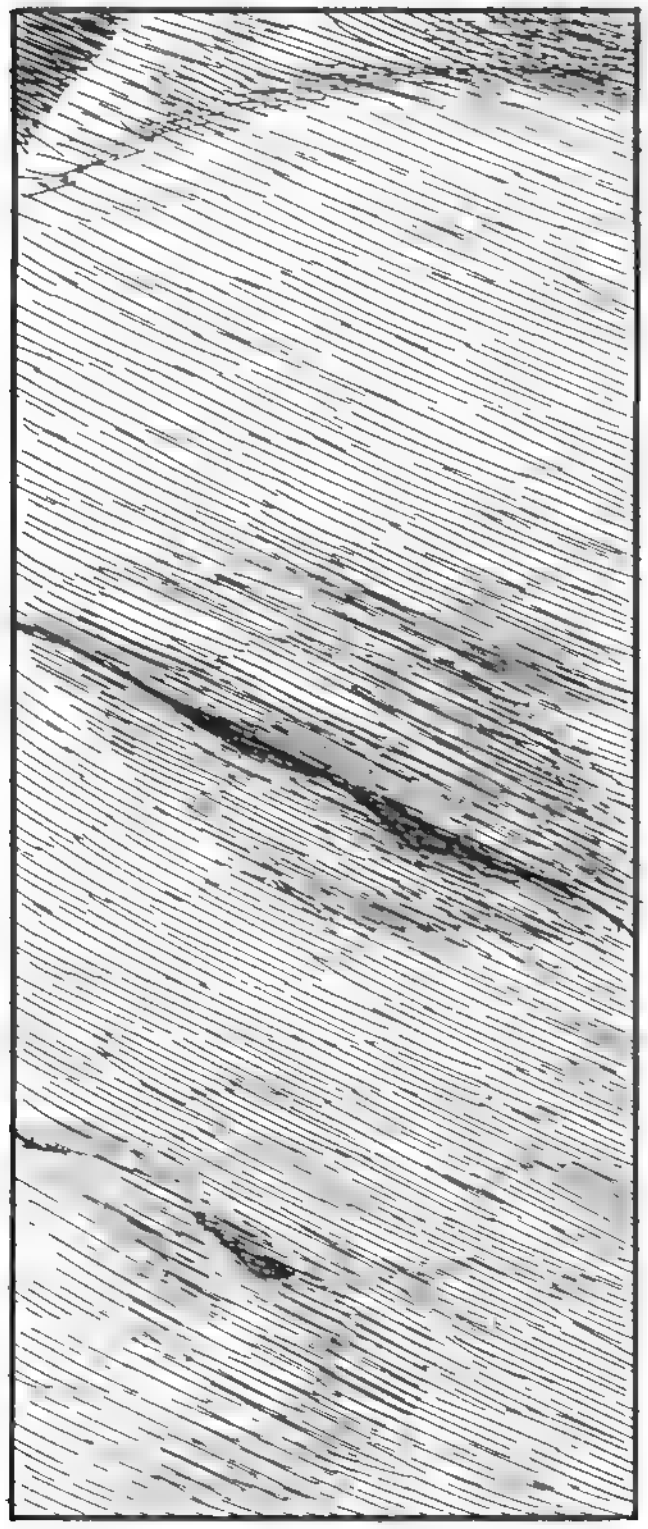


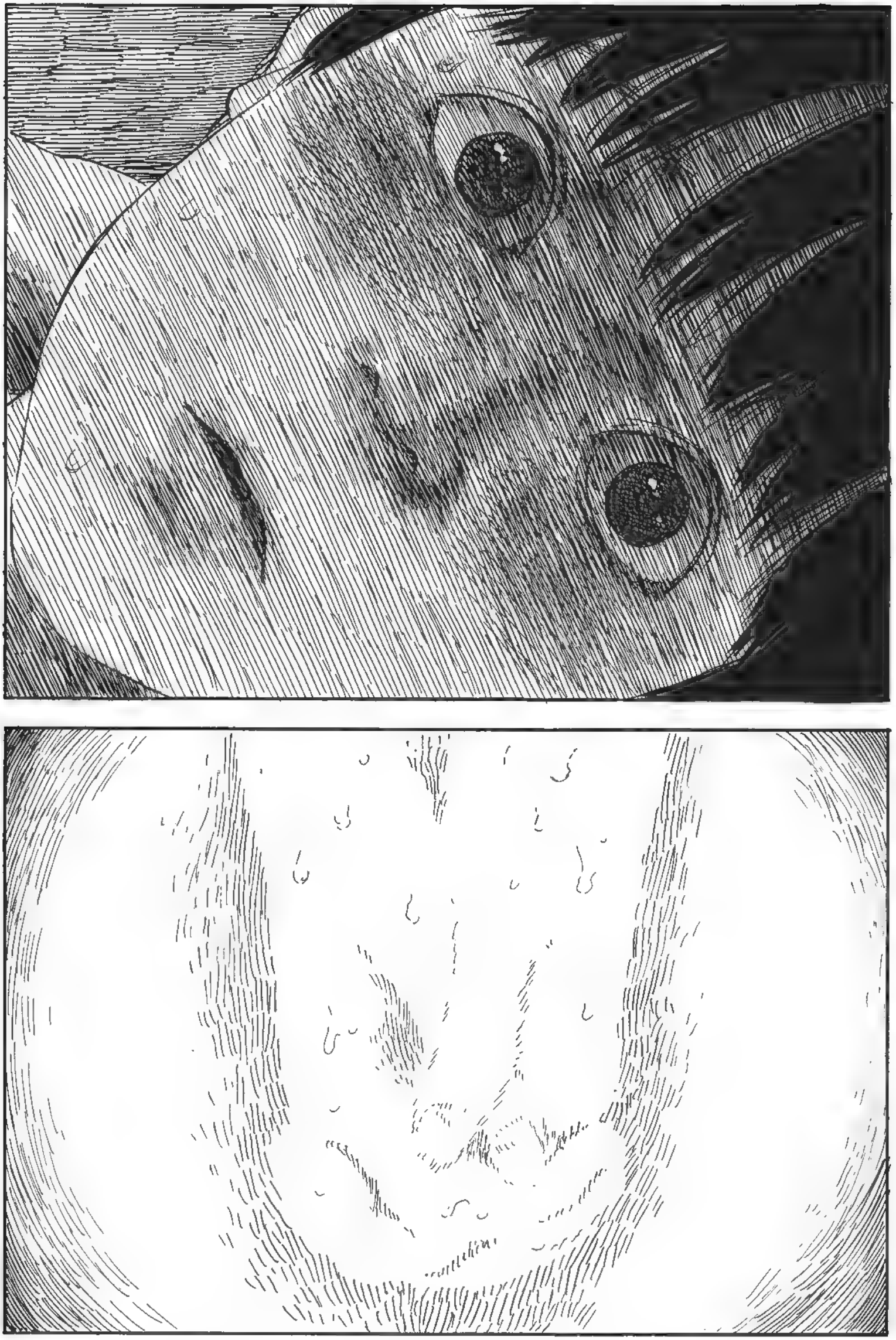

CARE ABOUT ME, RIGHT...?
YOU...




YOU'LL... NEVER DITCH ME, RIGHT...?


...
...ИН
НИН.





DA-DUN

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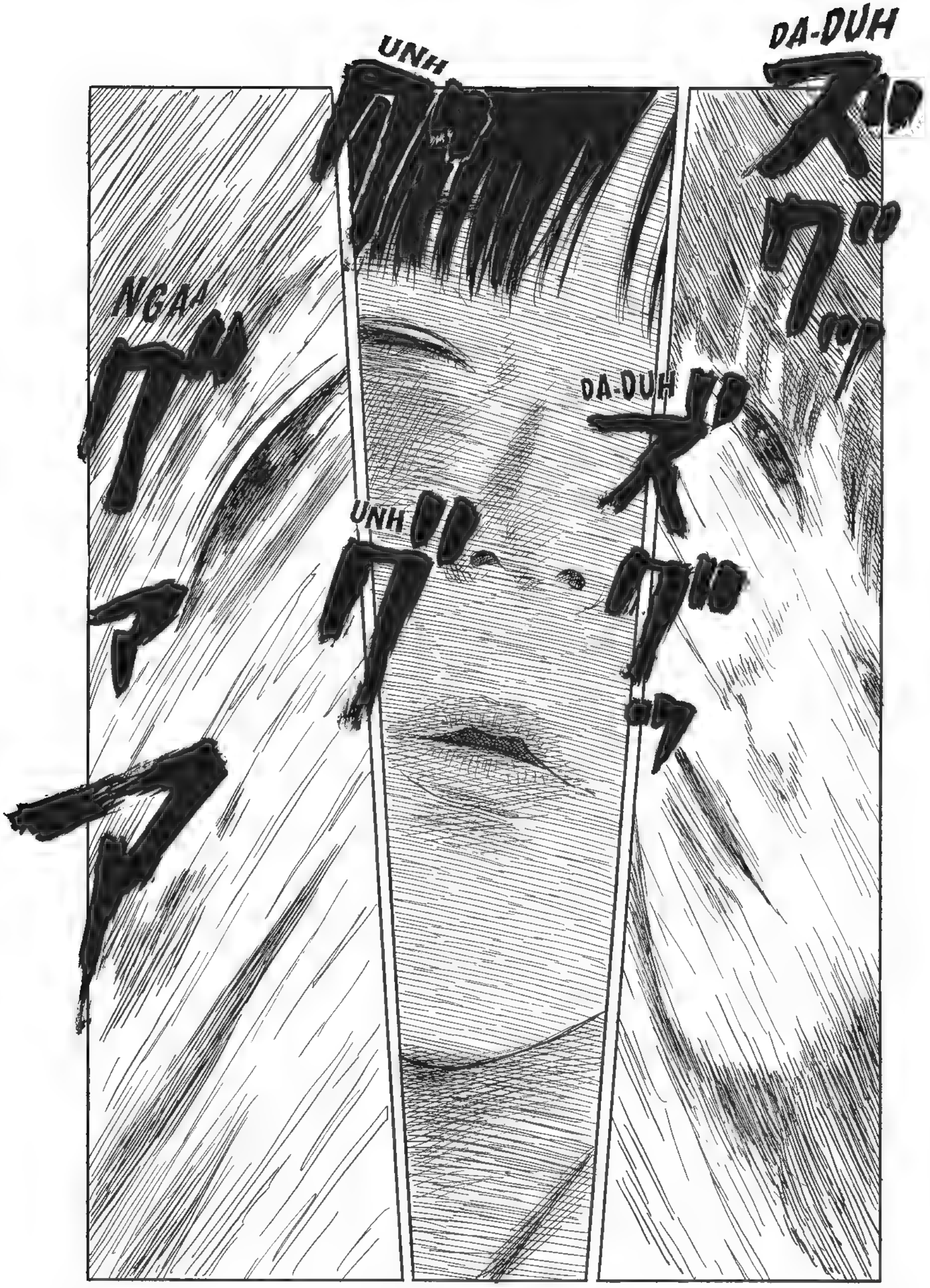
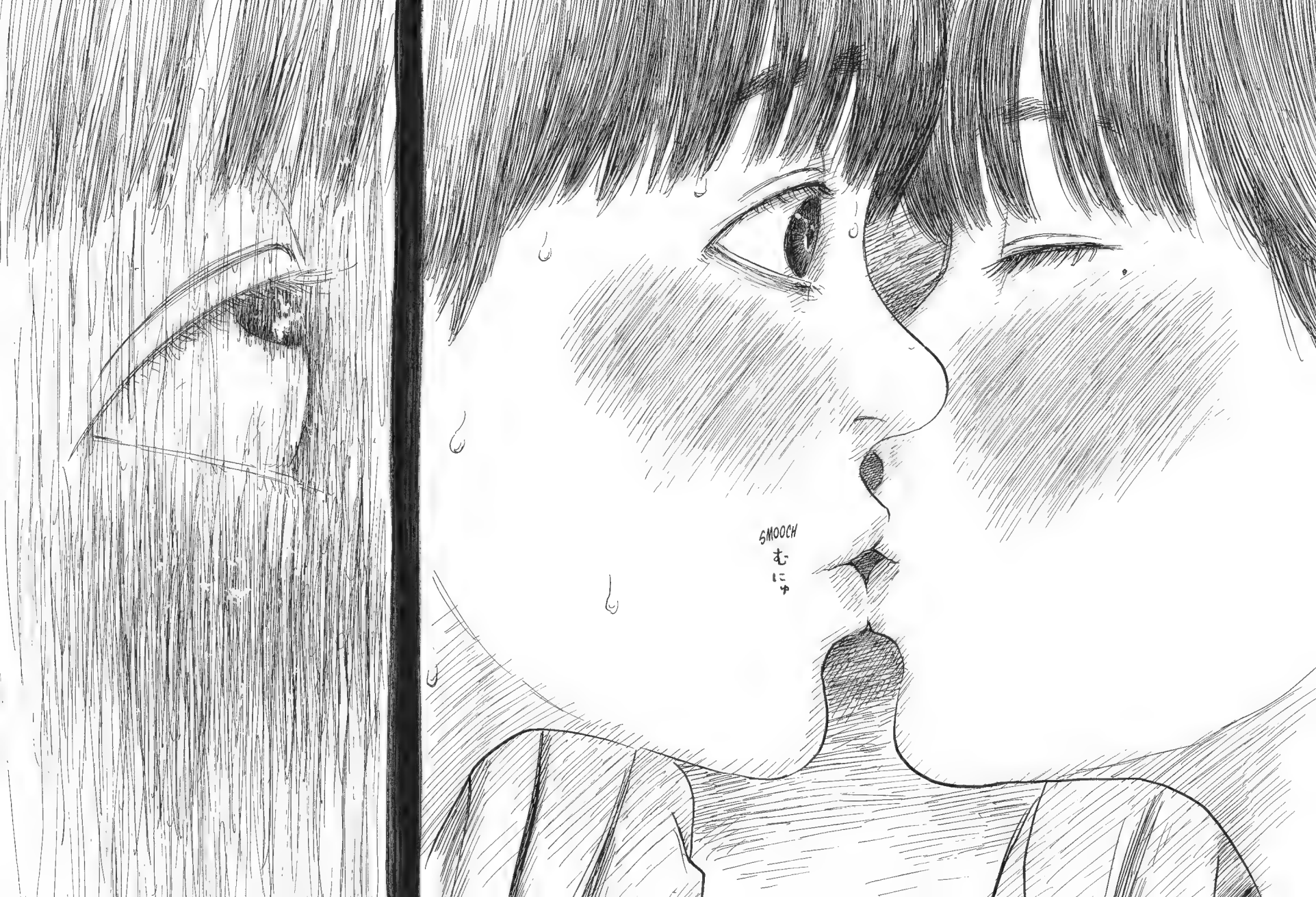
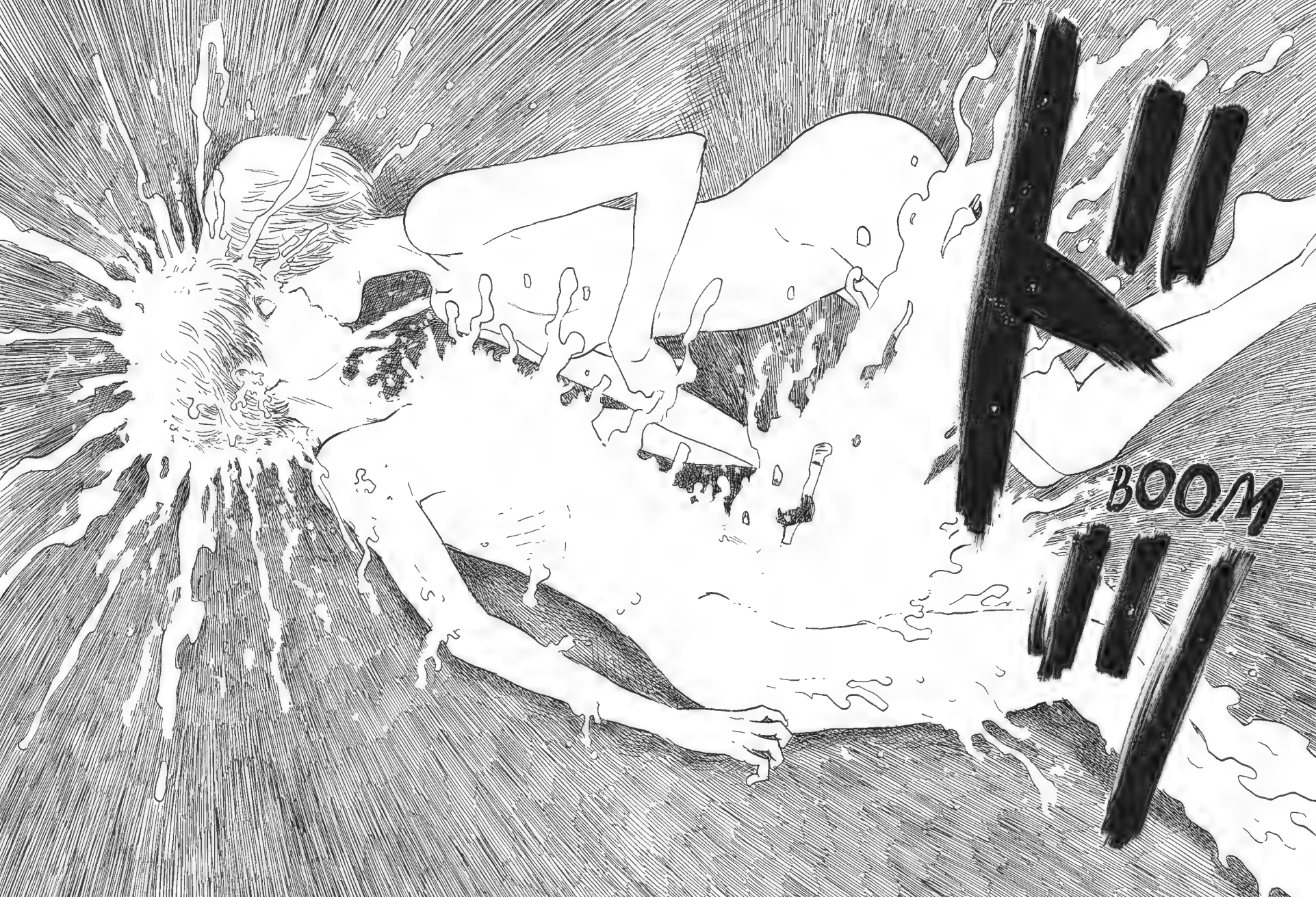

UNH
DA-DUH
NGAA
DA-DUH
UNH


SMOOCH
むにゅ


KA
BOOM
!!!

DOOMP

DOOMP

DOOMP

DOOMP

DOOMP

Here.

It's okay. Just get your shoes on.

Listen to your mommy.

mmn...

Someplace really fun.

We're going someplace nice.

Okay?

Mommy will be with you.

Okay?

Let's go.

where are we going?

Mommy,

It's so warm today.

Ahh.

where are we going?

Mommy, Mommy,

mmm
mm...

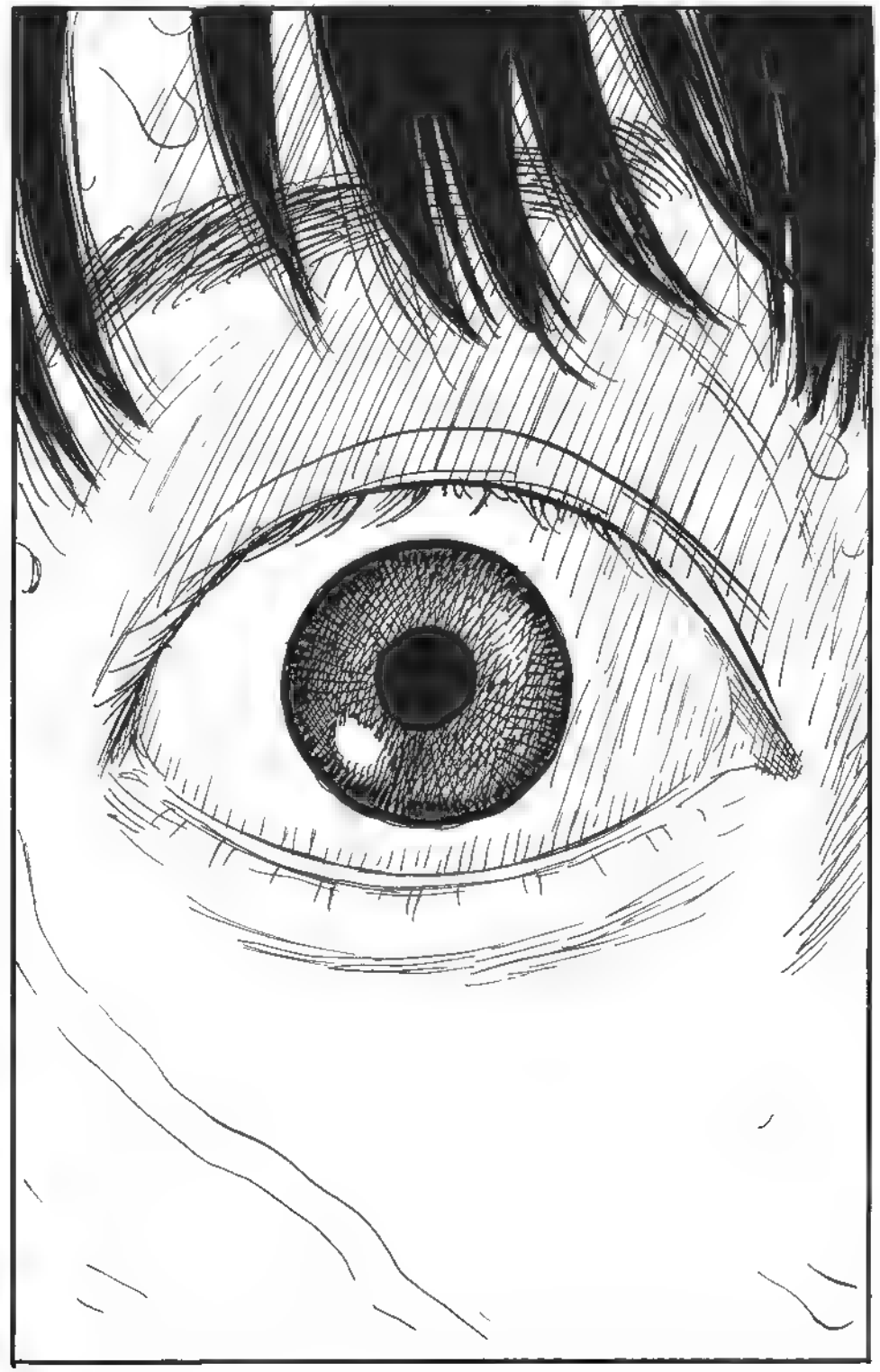
mm...

mmm
mmmm...

mmm
mmmm...

This
is so
nice.

Mommy's having
so much fun.



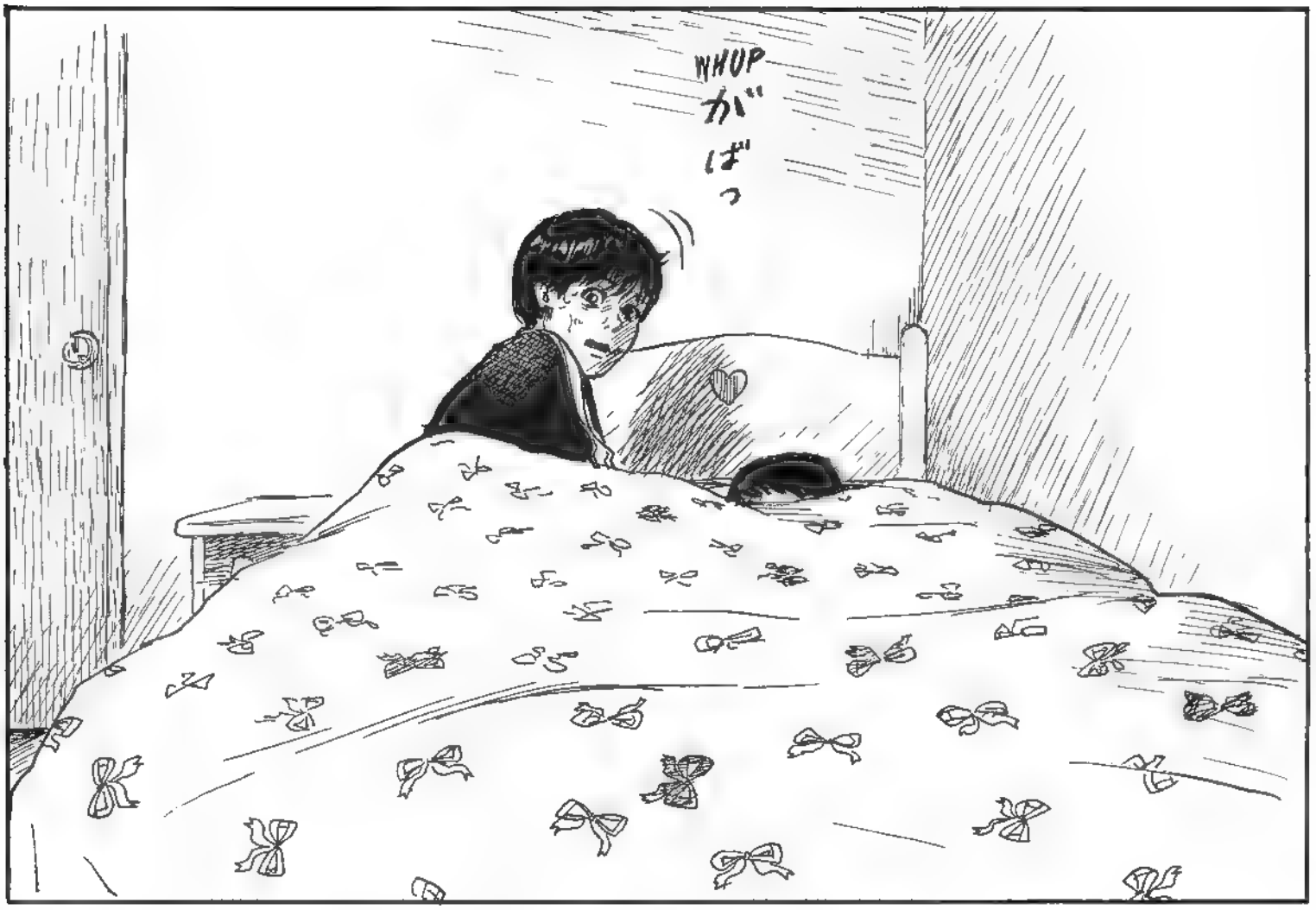
HAH

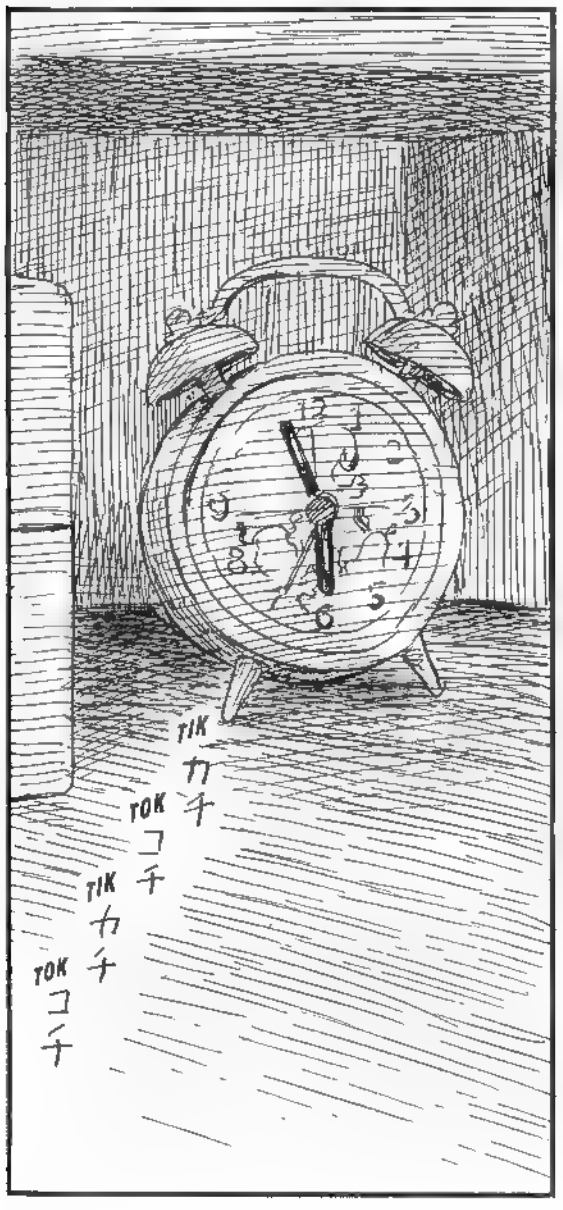
SSS...

FFF...

SSS...

Sei.


WHUP
がばっ


TIK
カチ
TOK
コチ
TIK
カチ
TOK
コチ

CHEEP
チュン
CHEEP
チュン

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF...

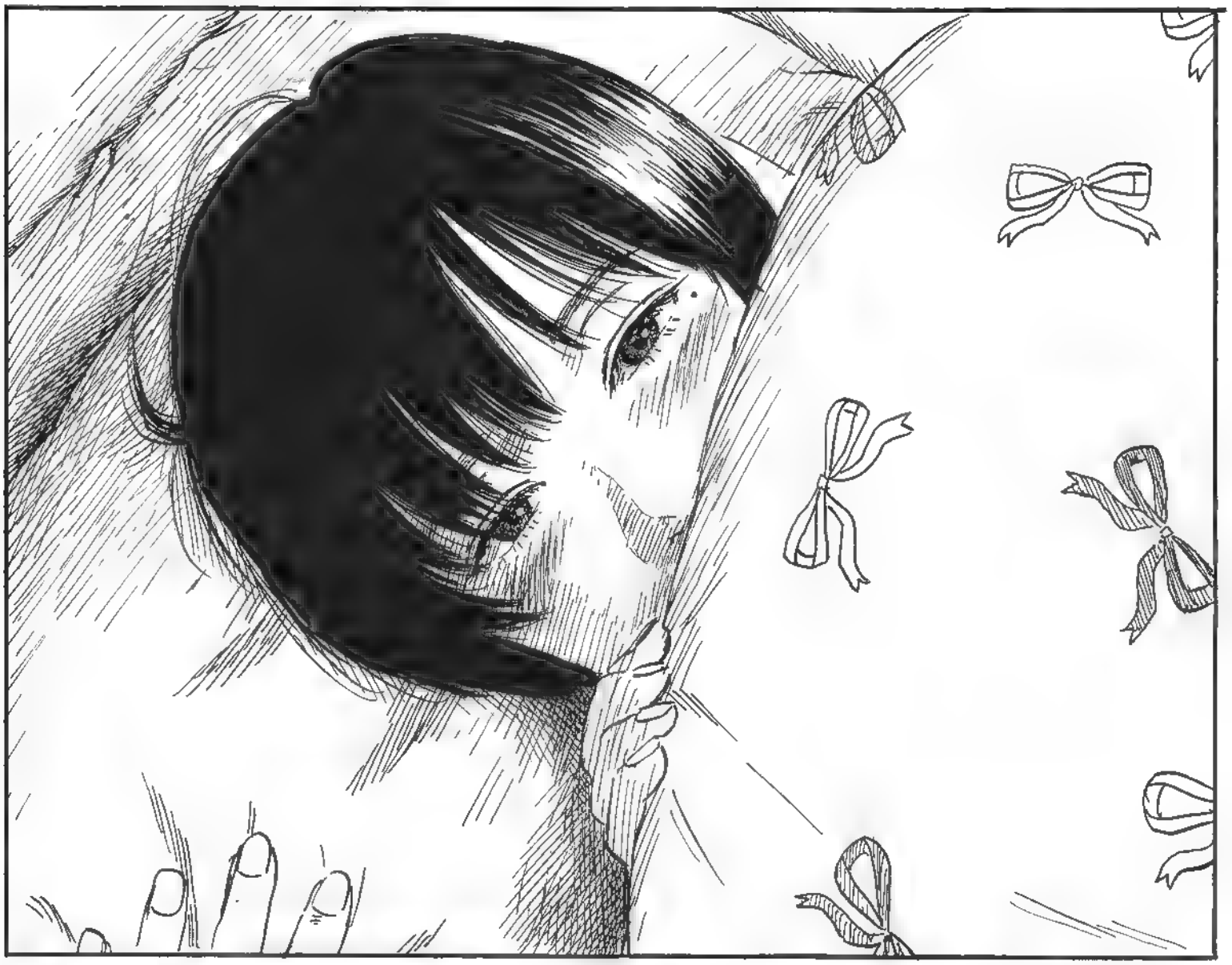
CHEEP チュン

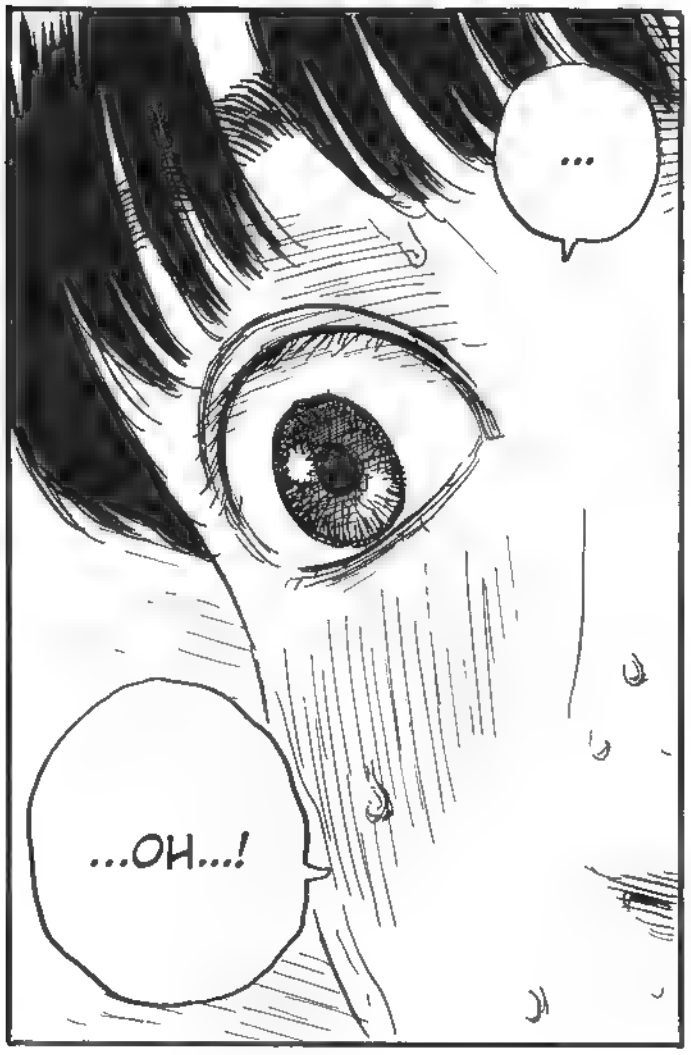
CHEEP チュン

CHEEP チュン

HUFF

WHAT'S WRONG?




...
...OH...!

WH... WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO...?!

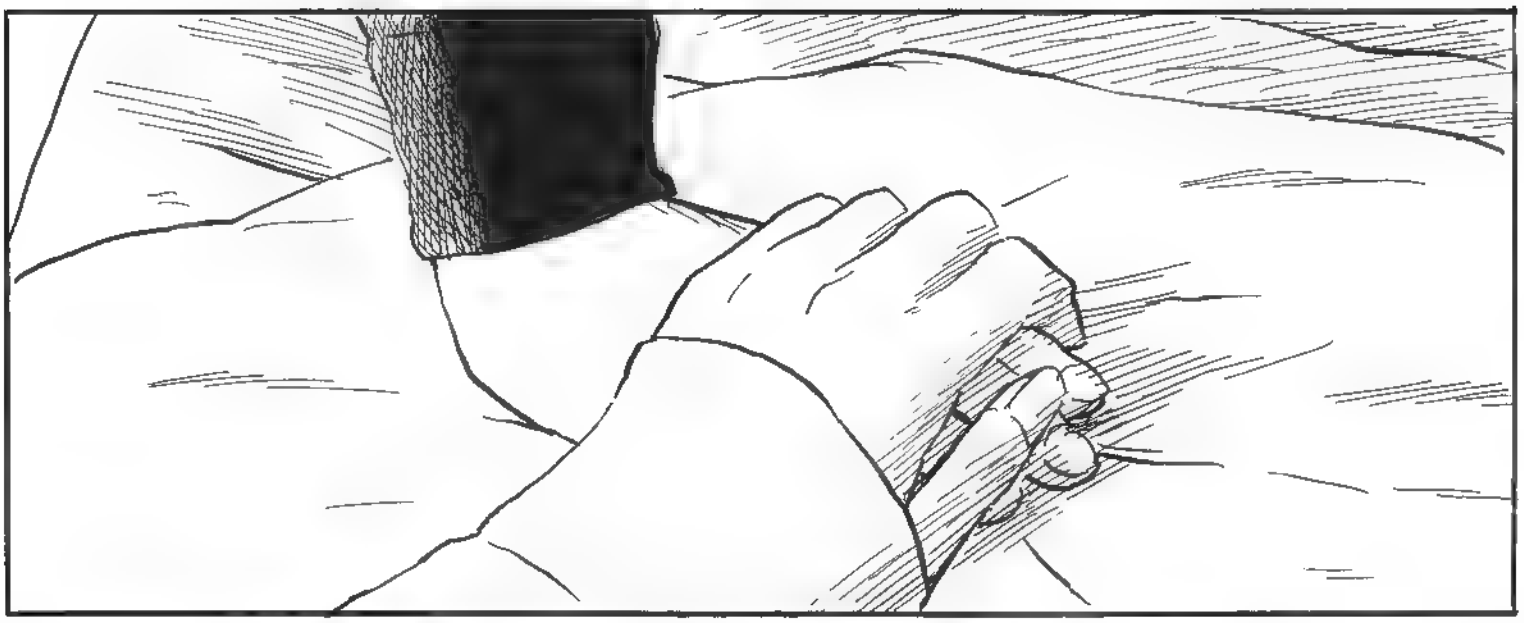
ABOUT... SCHOOL TODAY...!!

THERE'S NO SCHOOL TODAY.

IT'S THE SECOND SATURDAY.

...

...OH...



STAY WITH ME.
FOR ANOTHER DAY.

UM...

I...HAVE TO GO TO THE BATHROOM...

I...

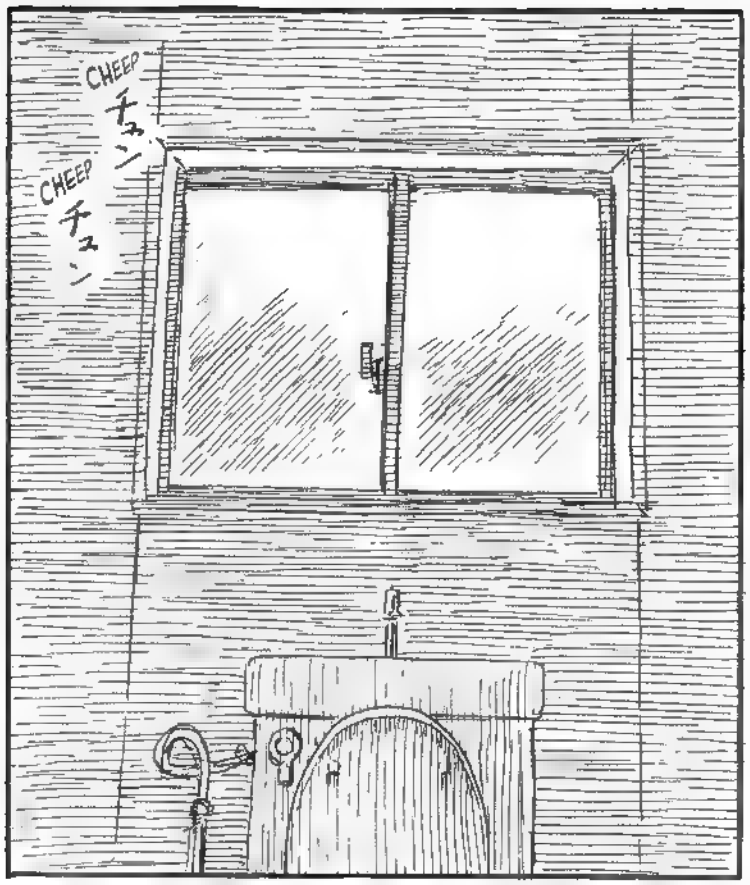
CHIK
カチャ!

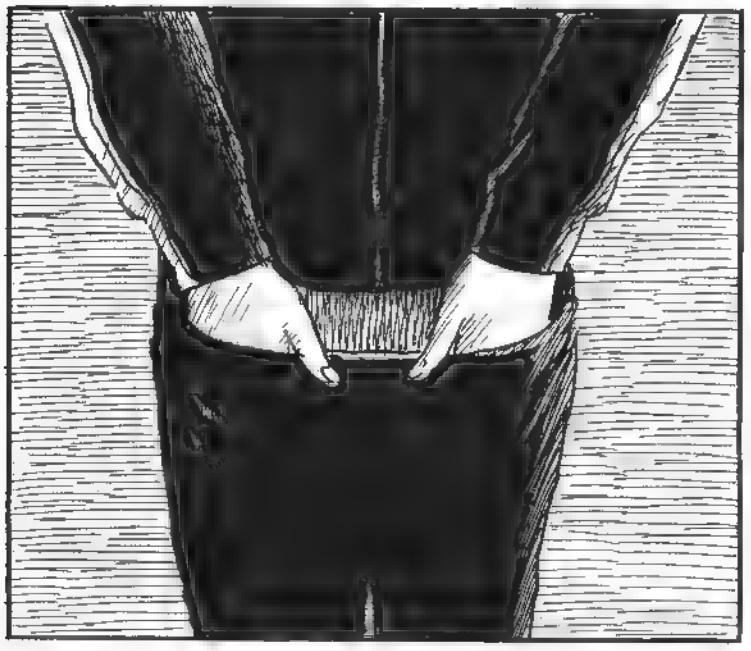
HERE.

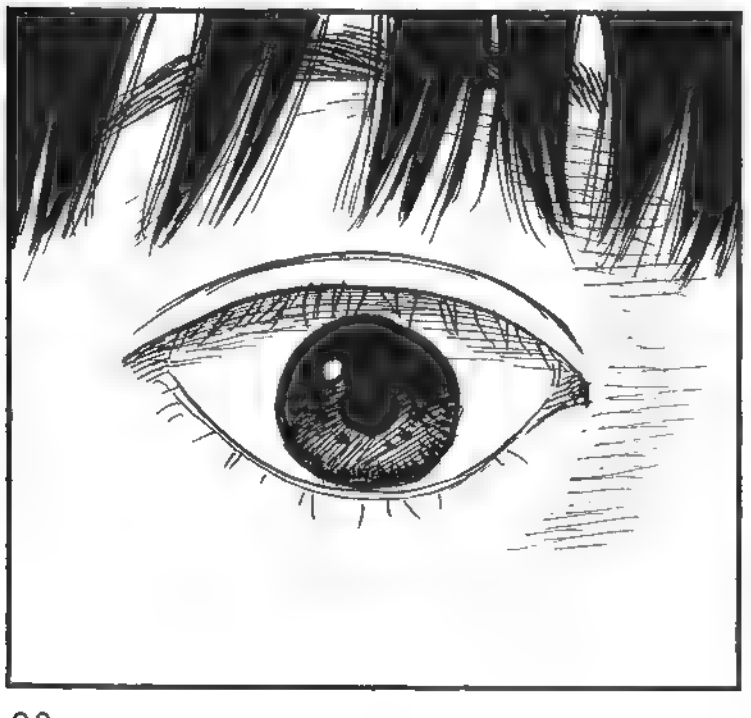
CHIK
カチャ!

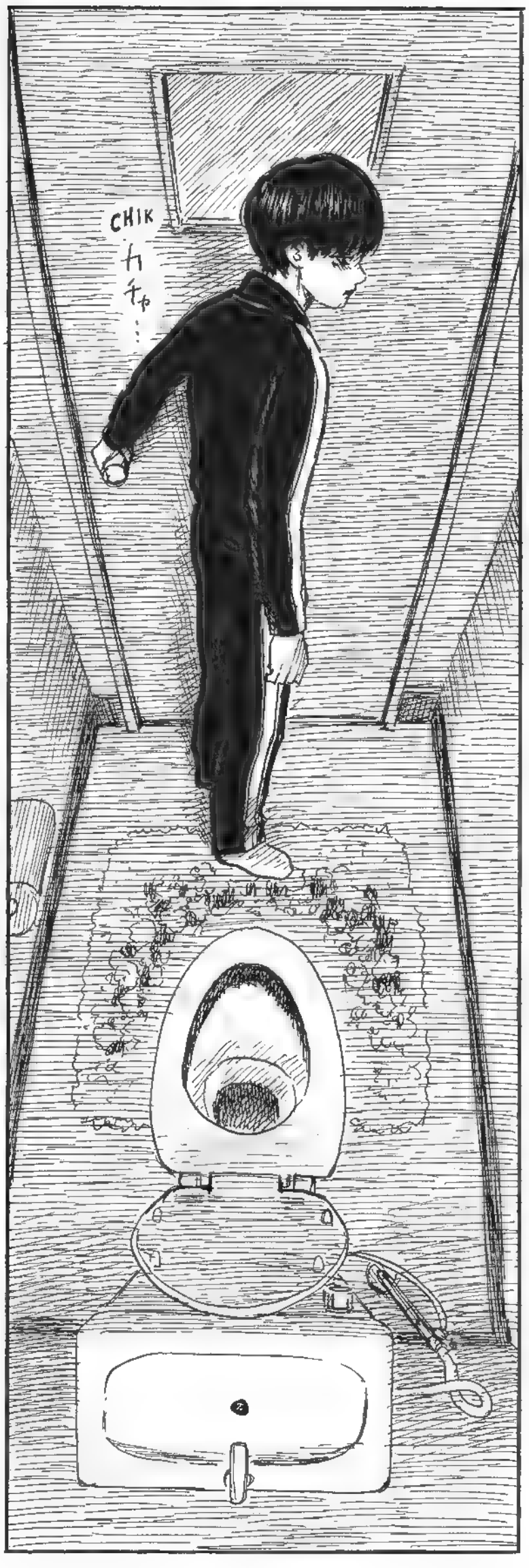
I'LL KEEP A LOOKOUT...

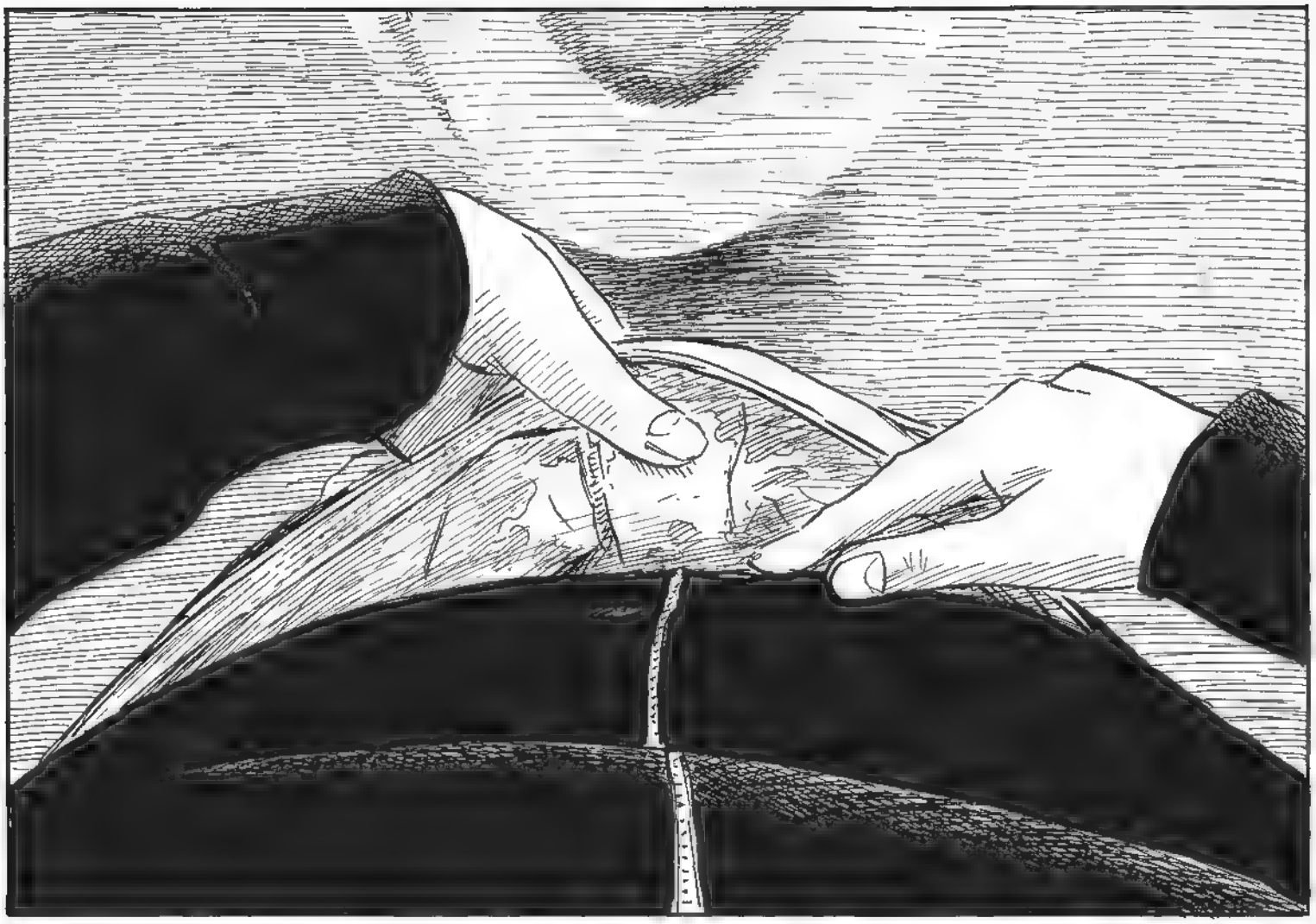
NOD
コク


CHEEP
チュン
CHEEP
チュン

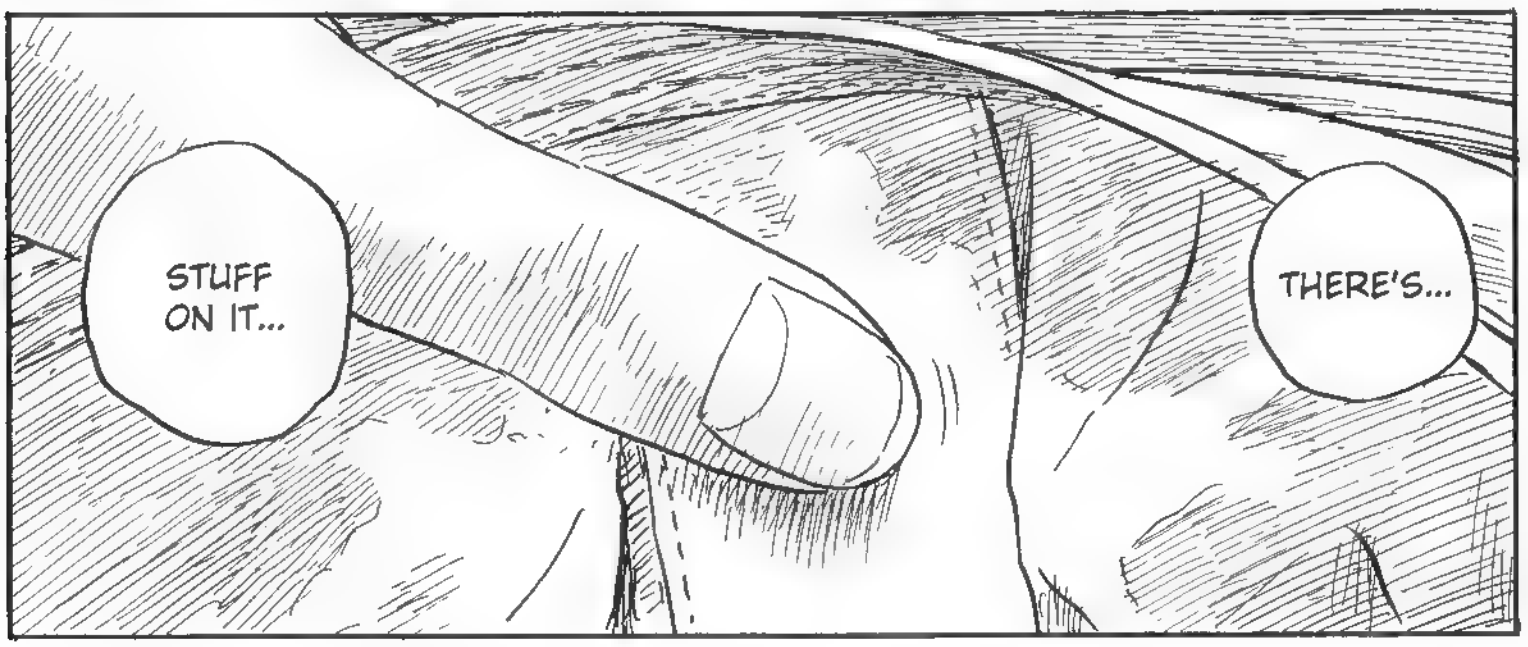





CHIK
チャ…



WHAT'S...
...


STUFF ON IT...
THERE'S...

むにゅ
SMOOCH

DOOMP

DOOMP

DOOMP

SOMETHING...

.....

CAME OUT WHEN...

SOMETHING...

WHAT... IS IT?

WHAT IS IT?

WHAT IS IT?

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
...UHH...

so much fun.

JOLT

ビリッ

HUFF...

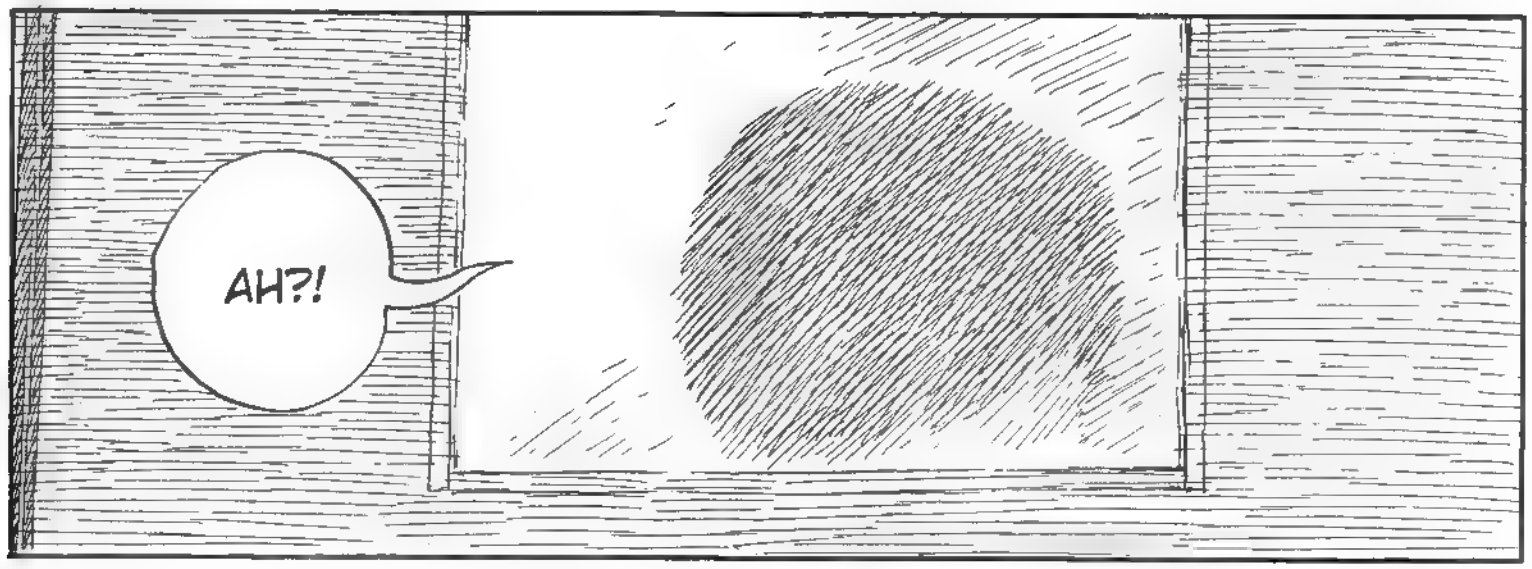
HUFF

HUFF

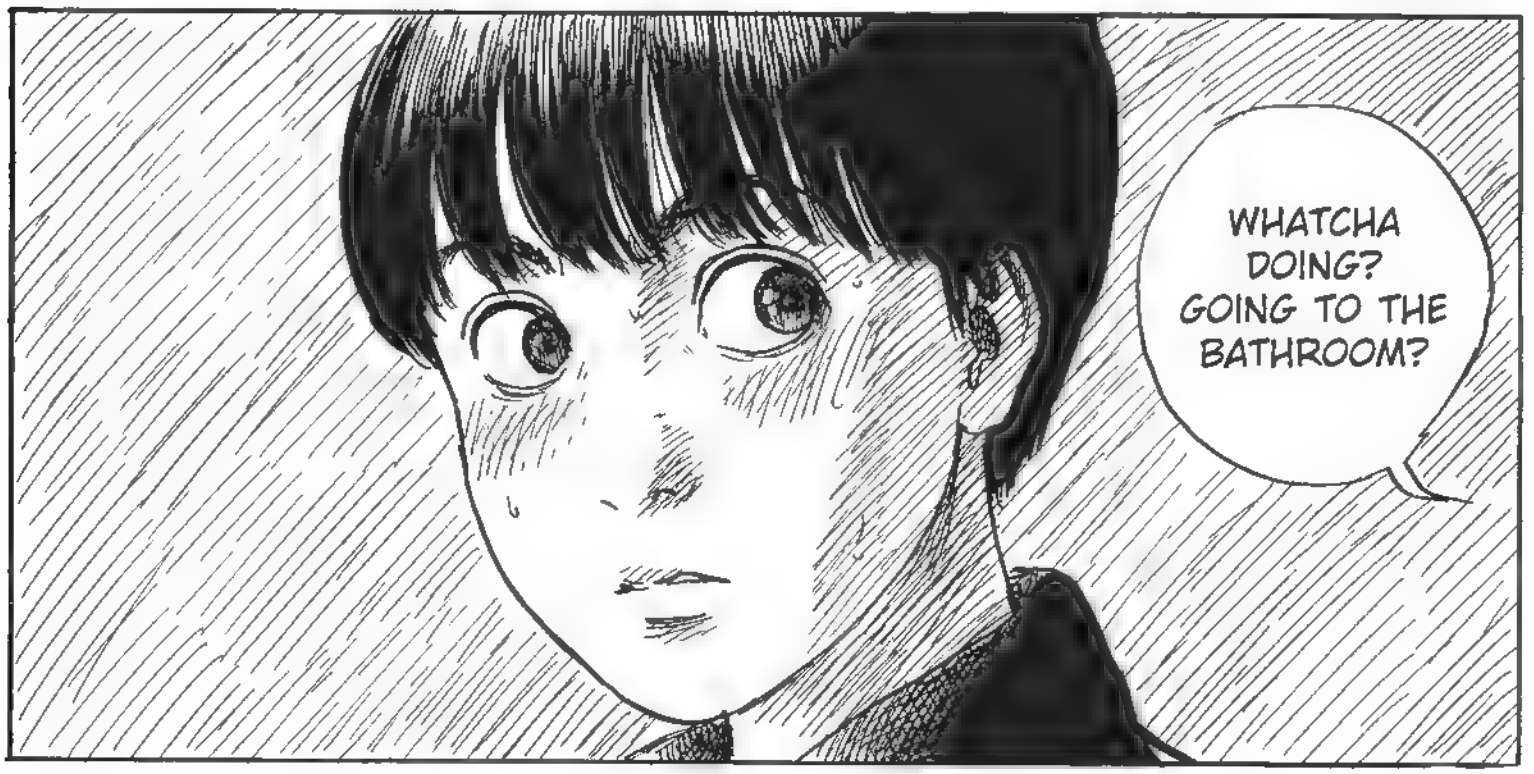
HUFF...

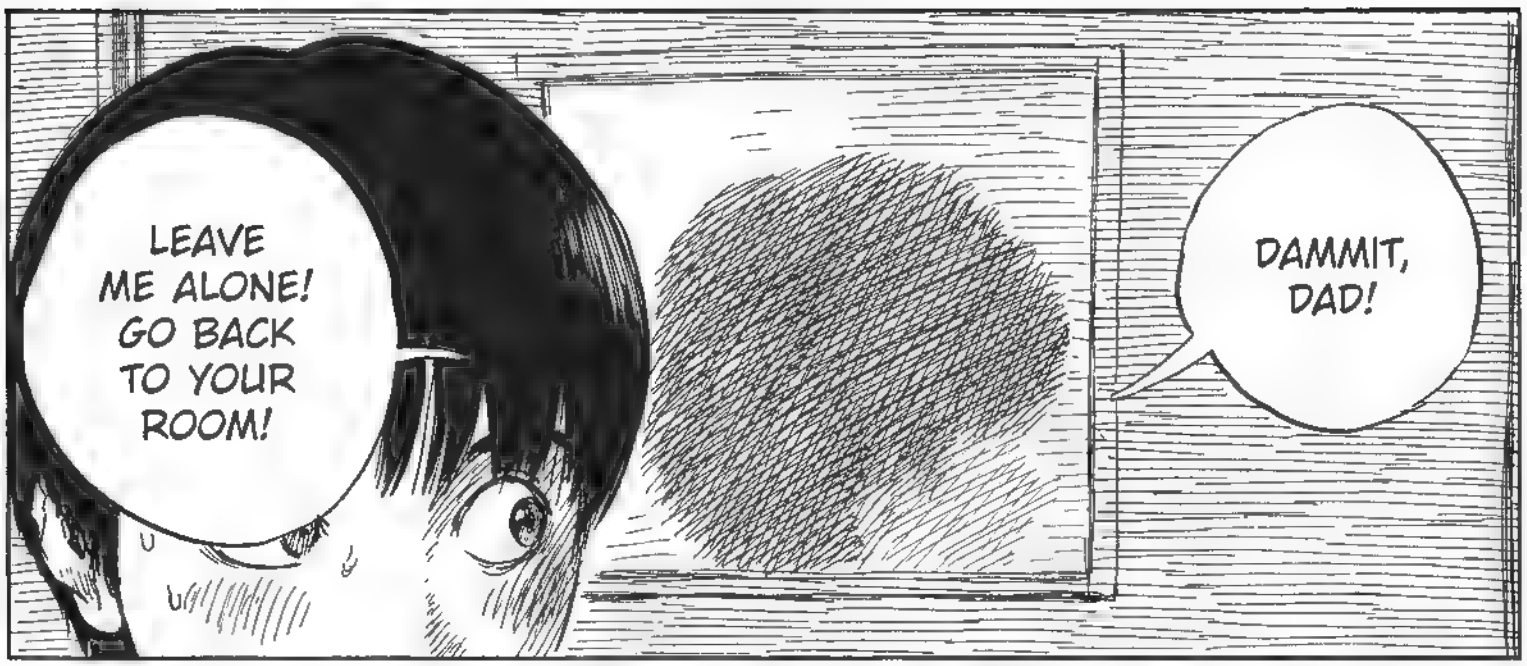
KA-
CHAK

TUMP どぴ
AH?!
た
TUMP どぴ
た
TUMP どぴ
た
OH!
YUIKO, YOU STARTLED ME!
OSABE
D...
DAD...


AH?!

OH, IT'S YOU, YUIKO!
PHEW, YOU SCARED THE HELL OUT OF ME.
OSABE
DAD...


WHATCHA DOING? GOING TO THE BATHROOM?


LEAVE ME ALONE! GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM!
DAMMIT, DAD!

YOUR POP'S GOTTA GO TO THE BATHROOM TOO.
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM ?
DON'T COME OUT OF YOUR ROOM 'TIL I SAY YOU CAN!
JUST GET OUT OF HERE! GEEZ!

WHATEVER.

FOR THE...

TUMP
どん
TUMP
どん
TUMP
どん
SLAM
バタン

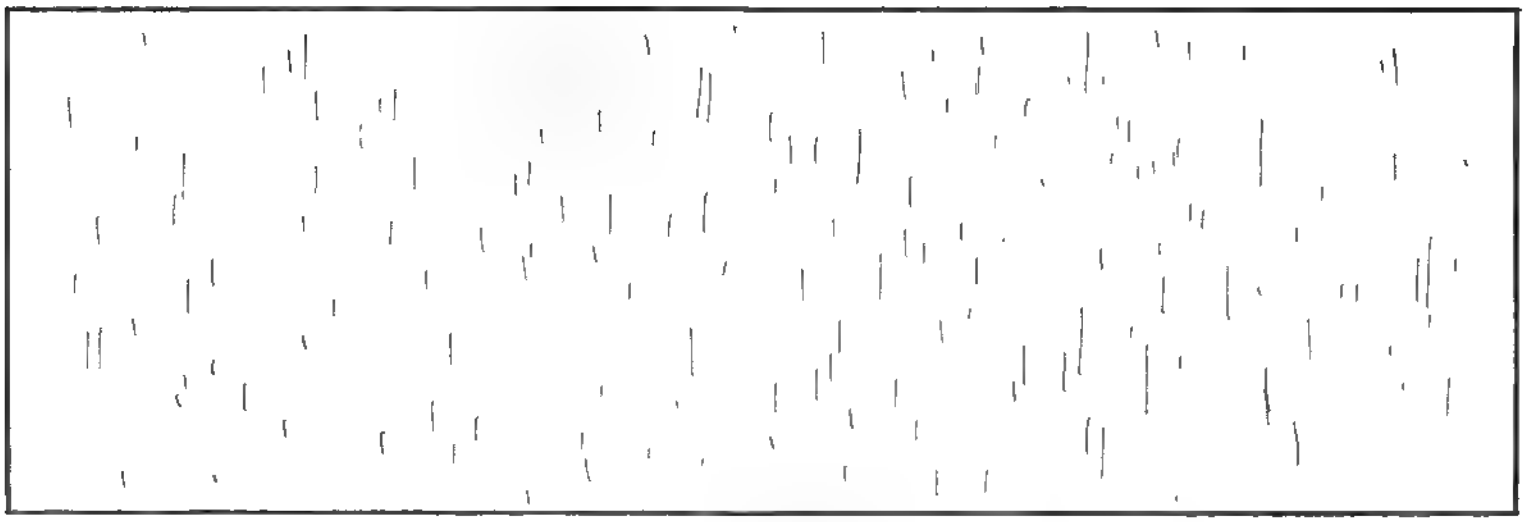
OH...

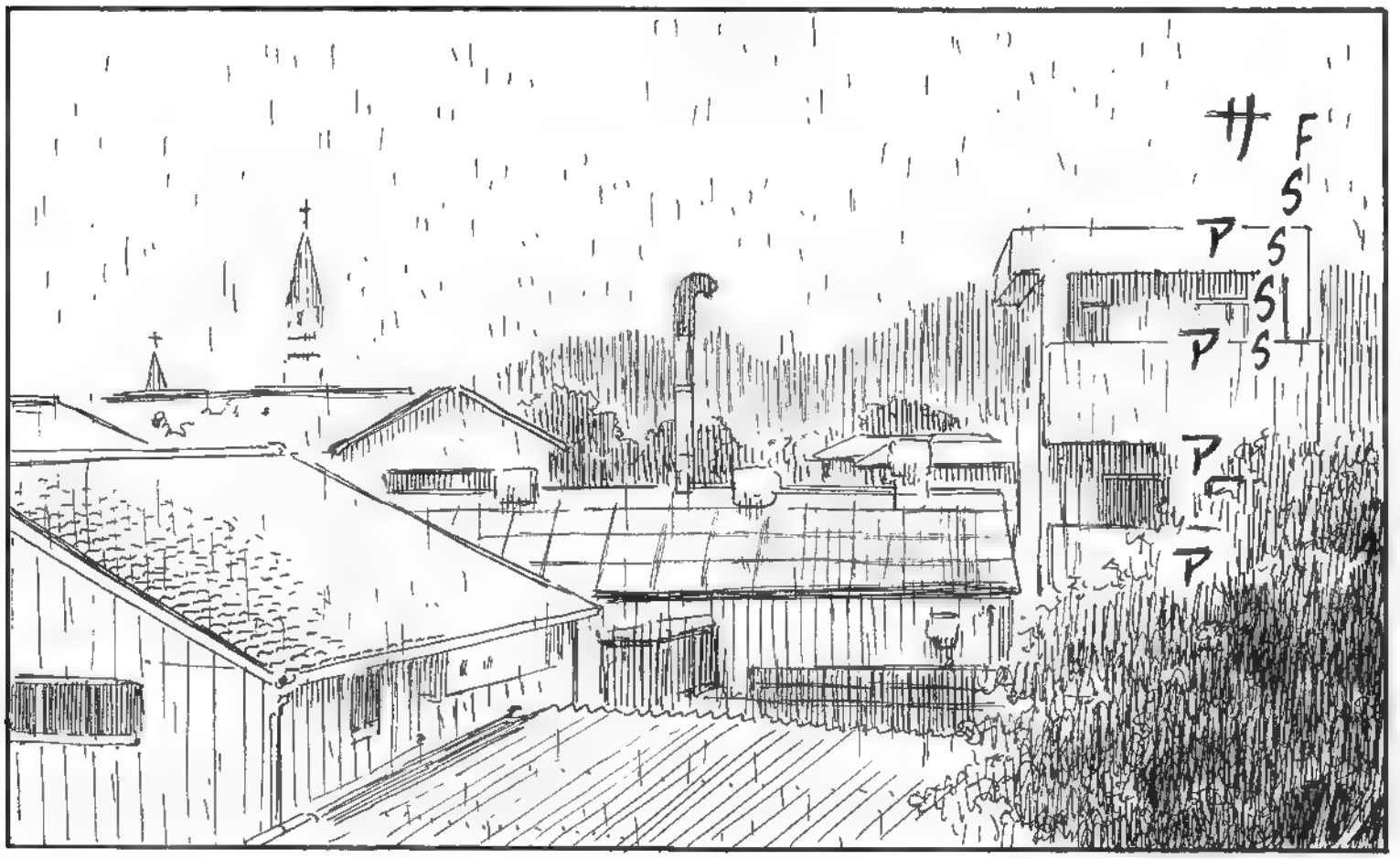
CHIK
カチャ

FWSHH
ゴー
ハー

BEFORE HE COMES BACK!

C'MON, QUICK.

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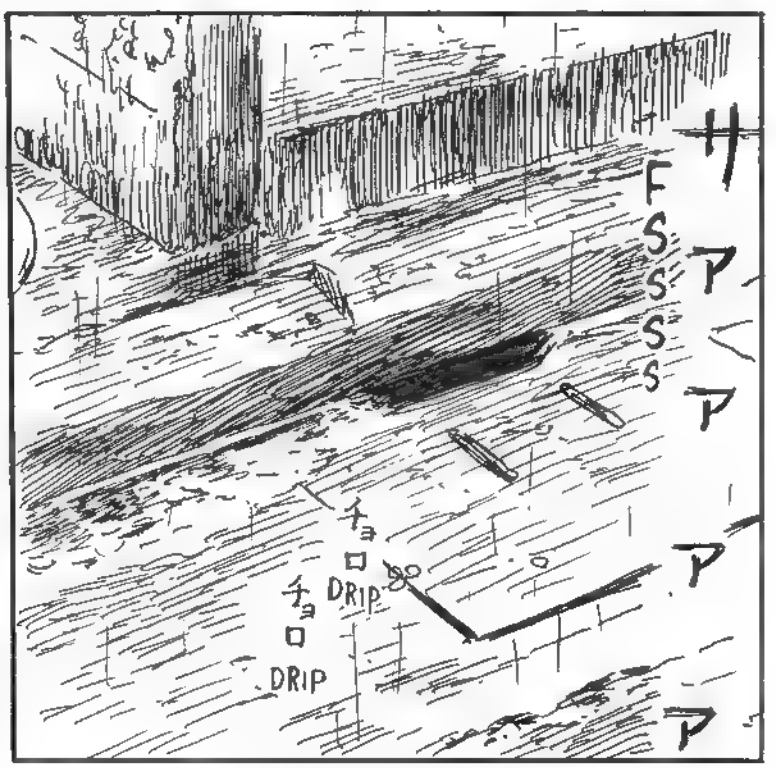
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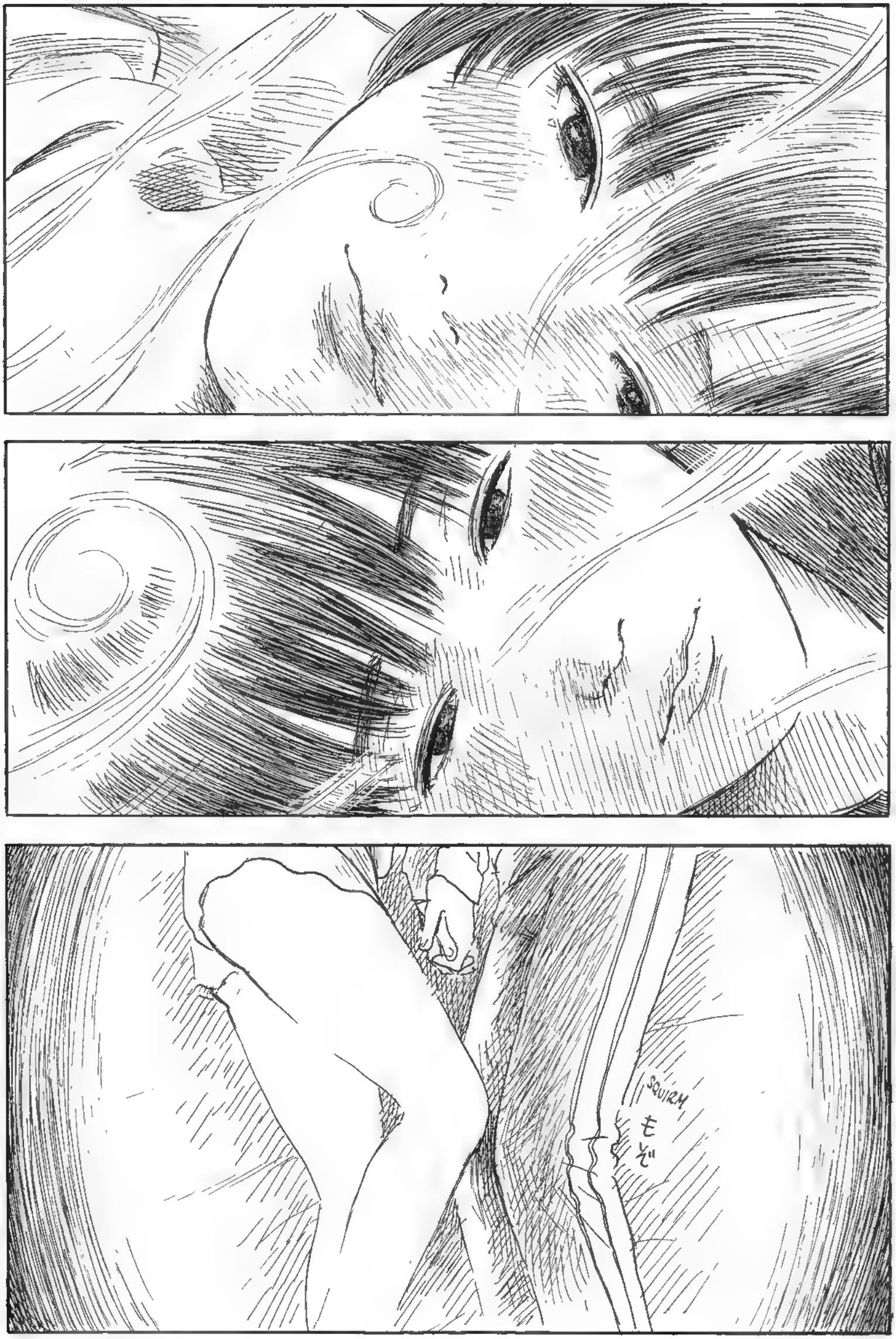
DRIP

コチ TIK
コチ TIK
コチ TIK

サアアア FSSSSS


SQUIRM
もぞ

WHAT... IS IT?

SOMETHING... CAME OUT...

もぞ!!
SQUIRM

MM.

sniff

sniff

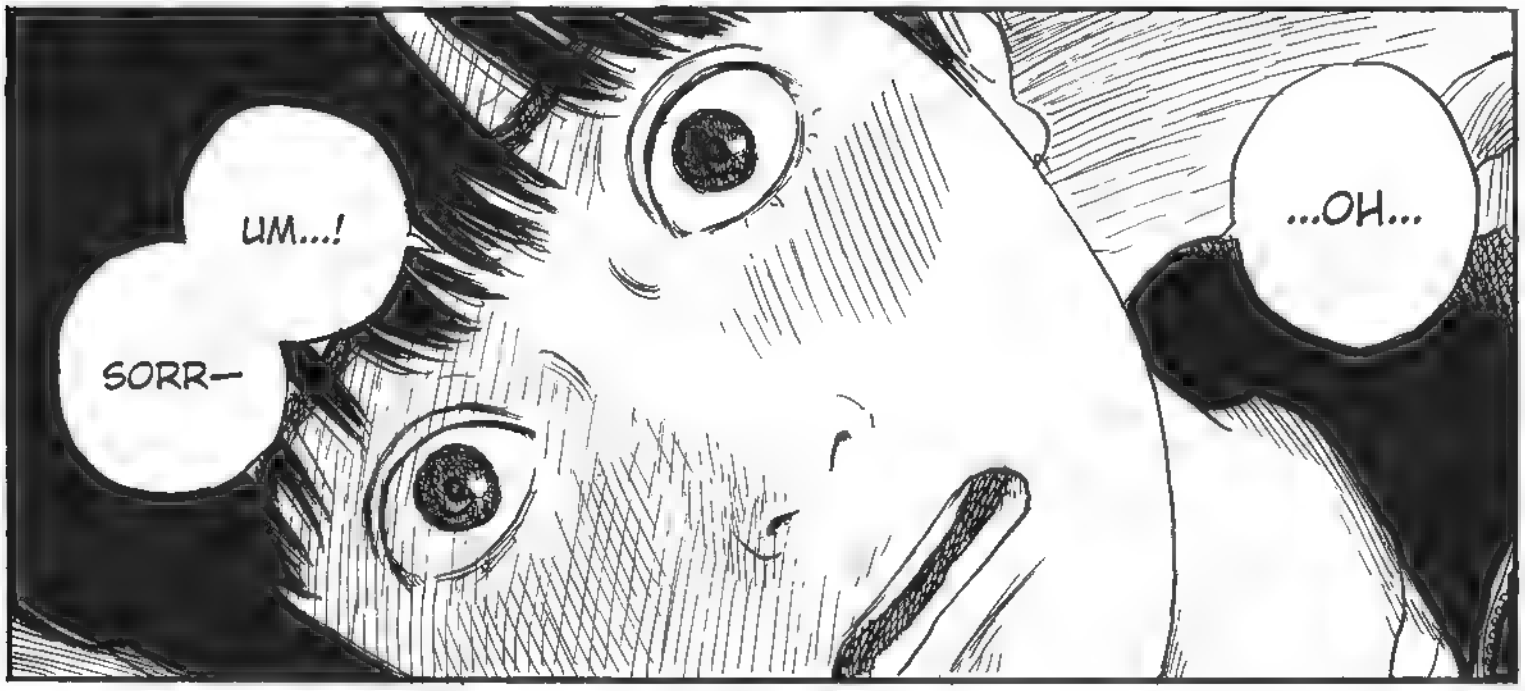
sniff

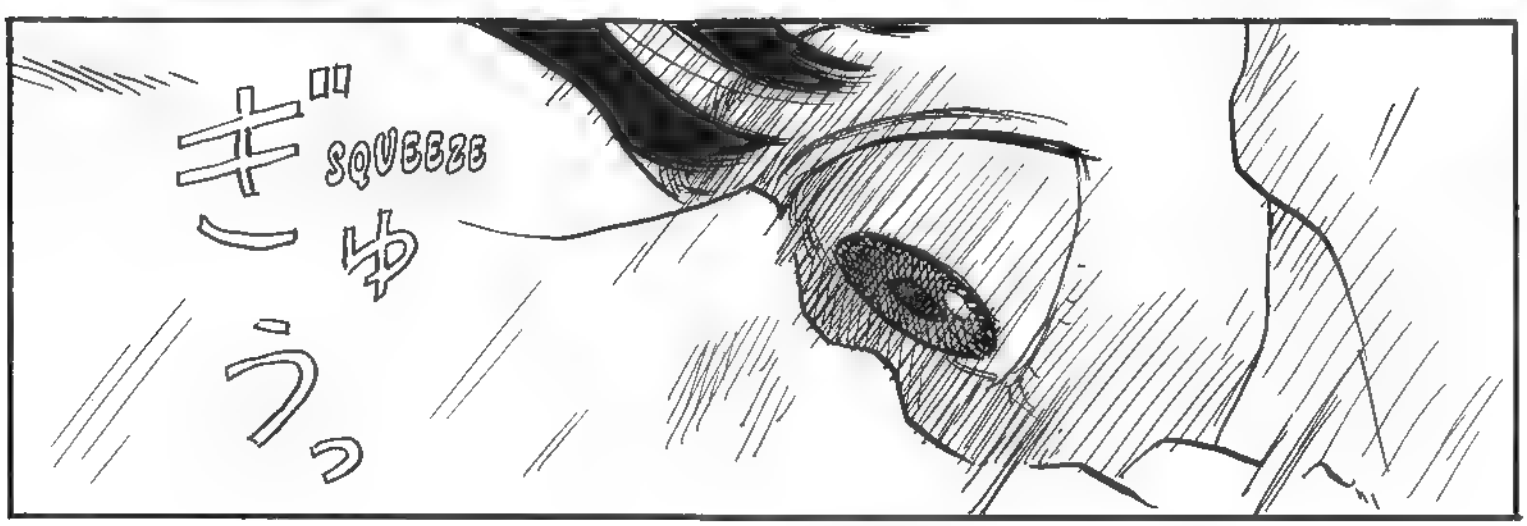
HEE HEE

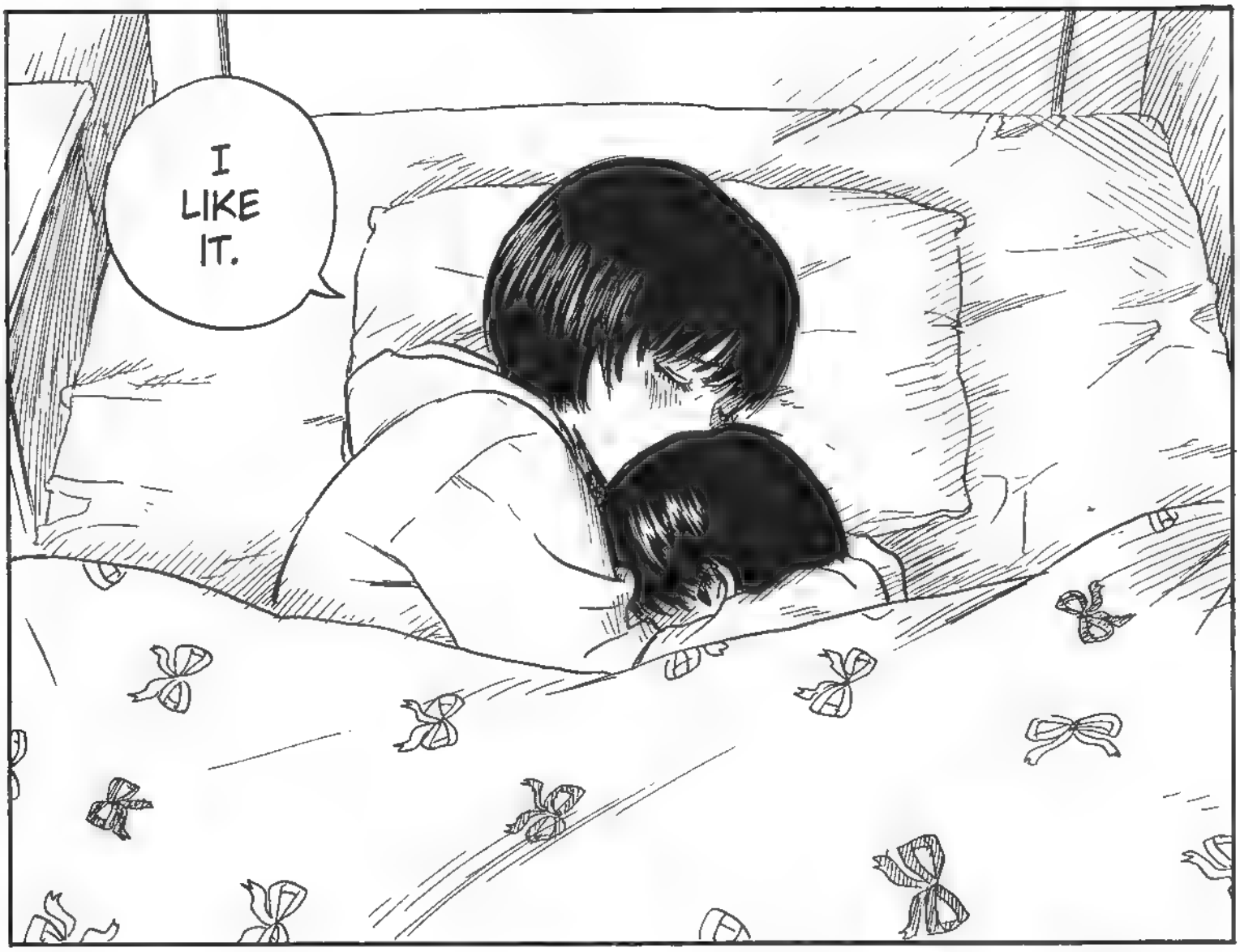
sniff

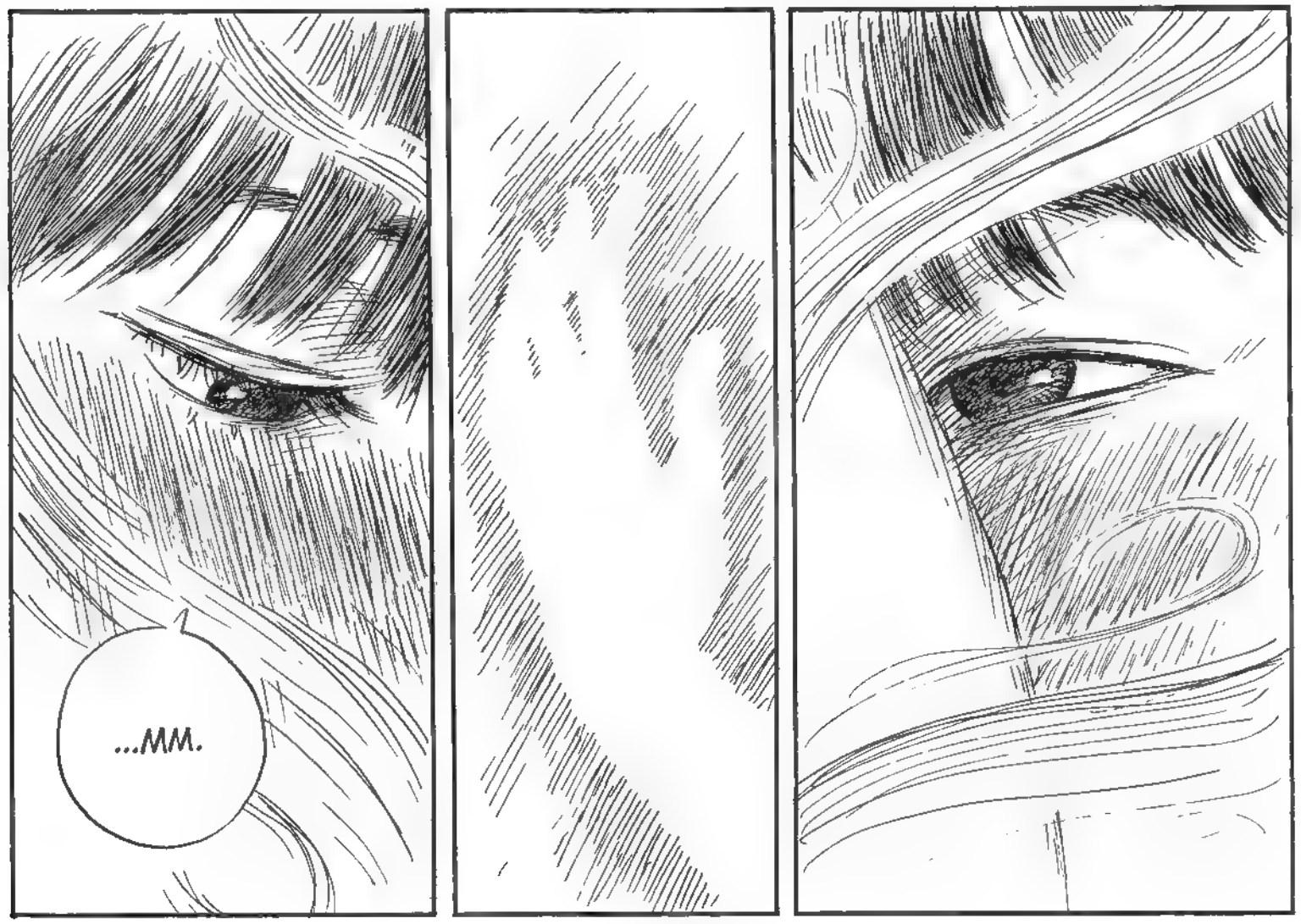
sniff

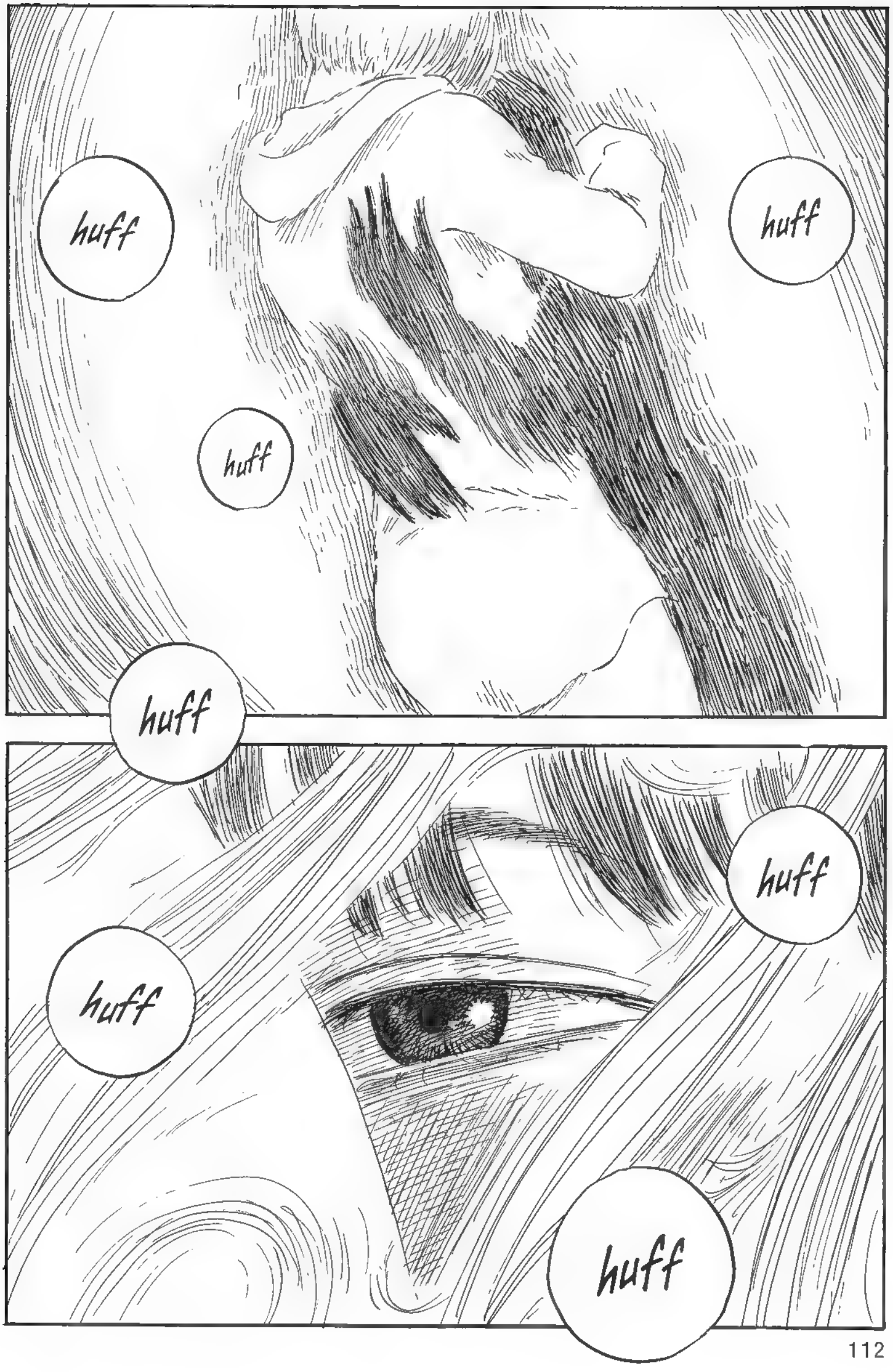
YOUR HEAD SMELLS.
OSABE,


UM...!
SORR—
...OH...


SQUEEEE


I LIKE IT.


...MM.


huff
huff
huff
huff
huff
huff
huff

huff

huff

huff

KISS AGAIN...

LET'S...

huff

huff

huff

ピンポーン DING- DONG

ピンポーン DING- DONG

COMING.

PATTER パタ

PATTER パタ

...SOMEONE'S HERE.

UH HUH...

F サ
S ア
S ア
S ア
S ア

YUIKO, COME DOWN HERE FOR A SEC!

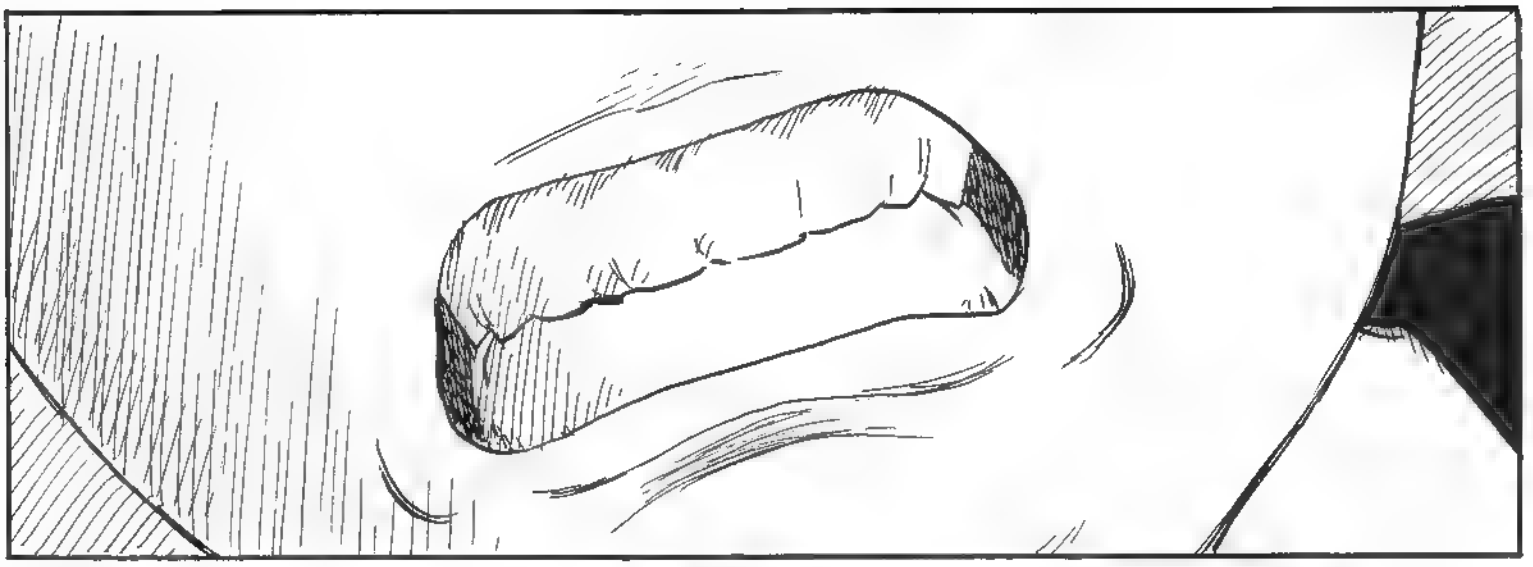
YUIKO!

WHAT IS IT ?!

...

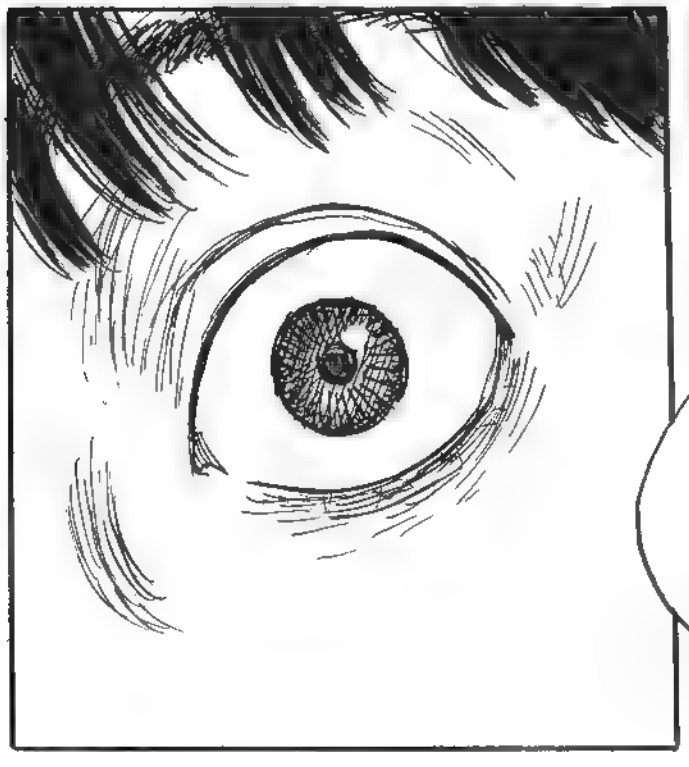
YOU HAVE A FRIEND NAMED... OSABE?

HIS MOM'S HERE, SHE WANTS TO ASK YOU SOMETHING!!

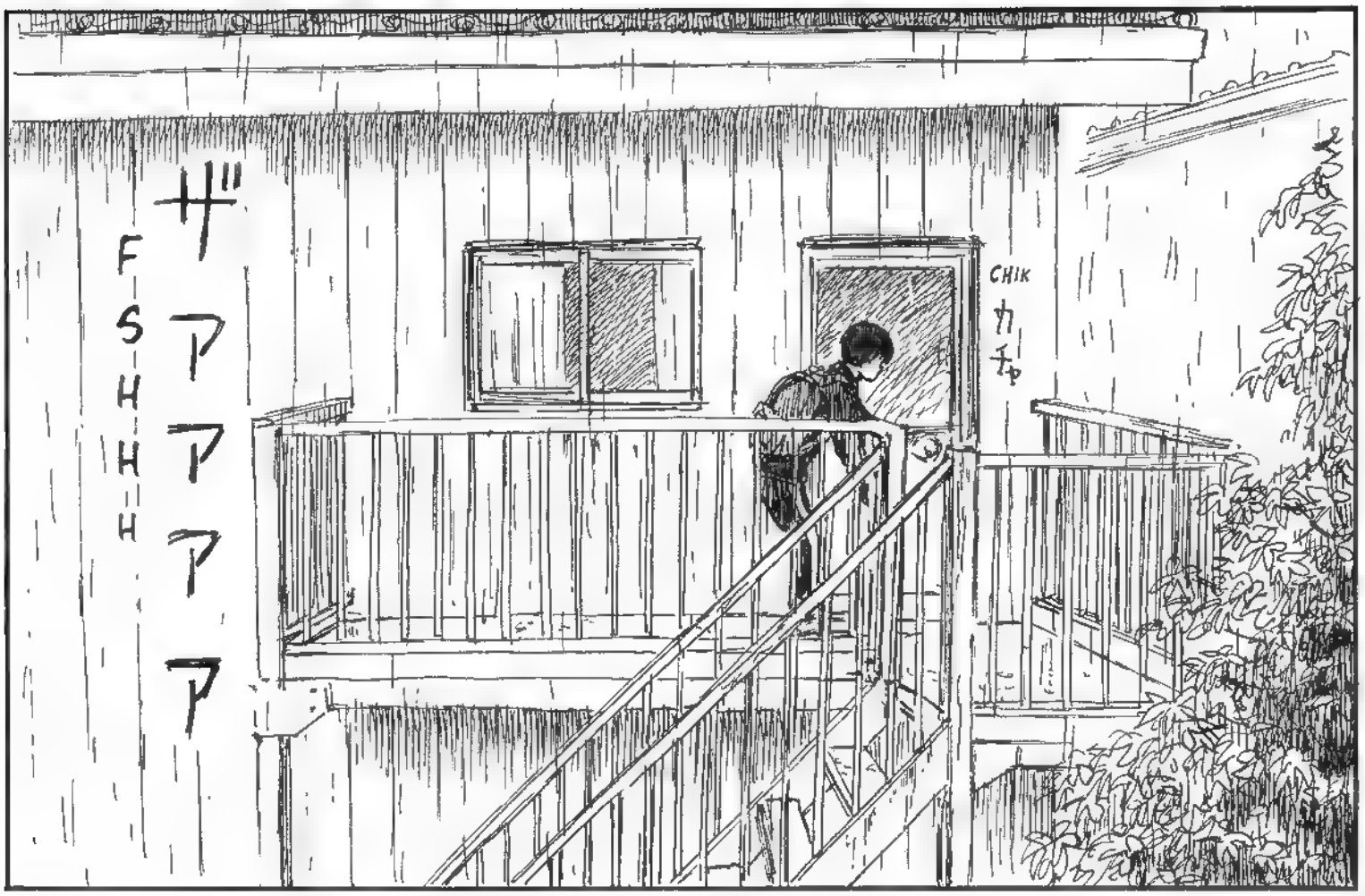


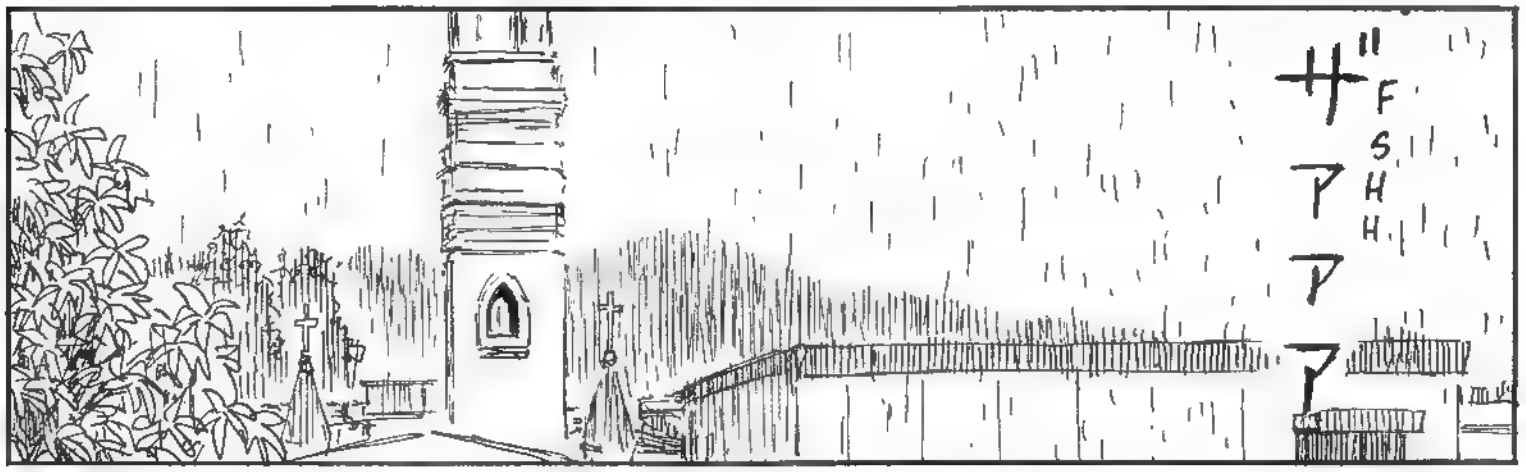
A-

...A-
A-
A-



OSABE,
HIDE ON THE BALCONY!

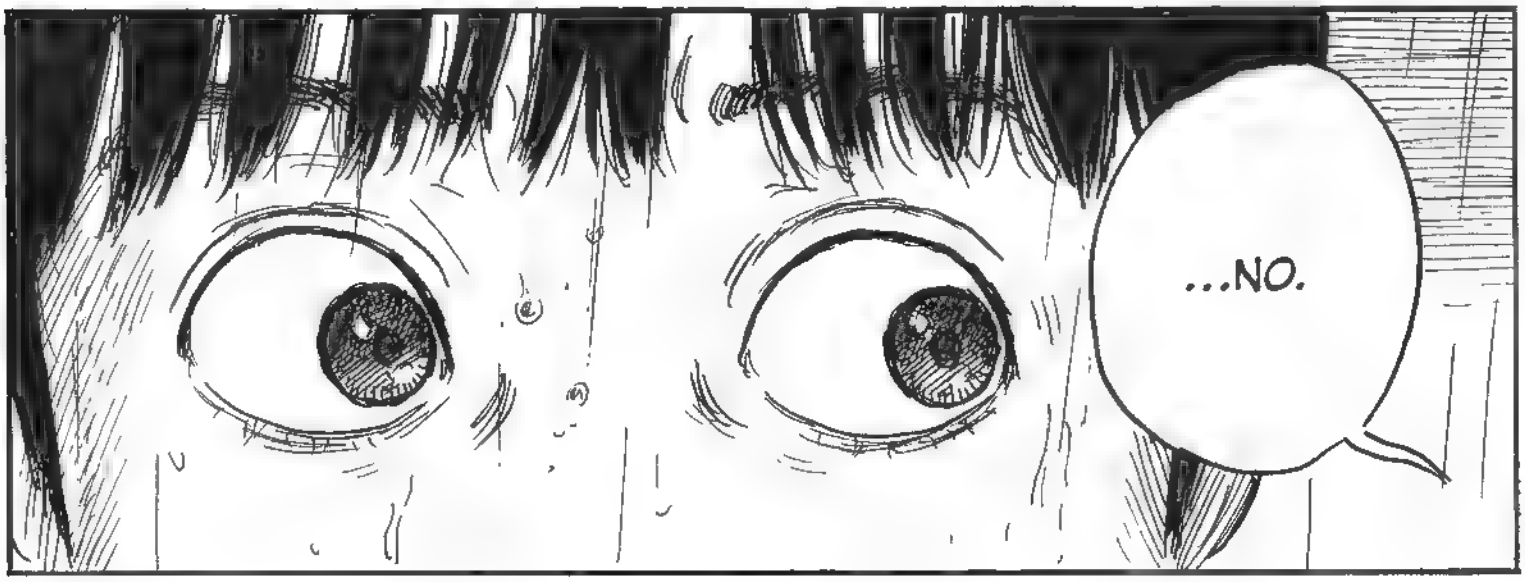

F
S
H
H
H
CHIK

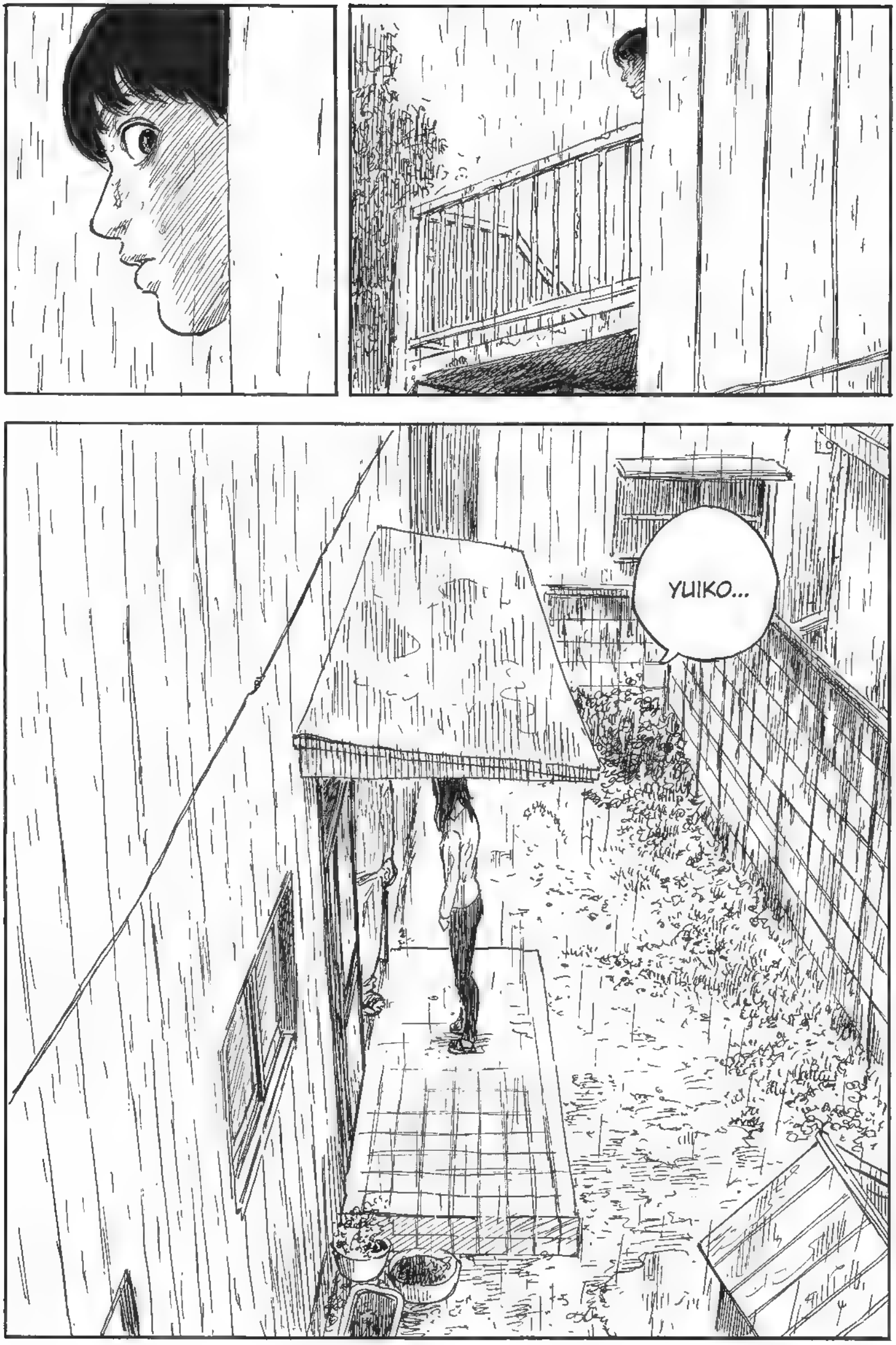

F
S
H
H

HUFF
HUFF

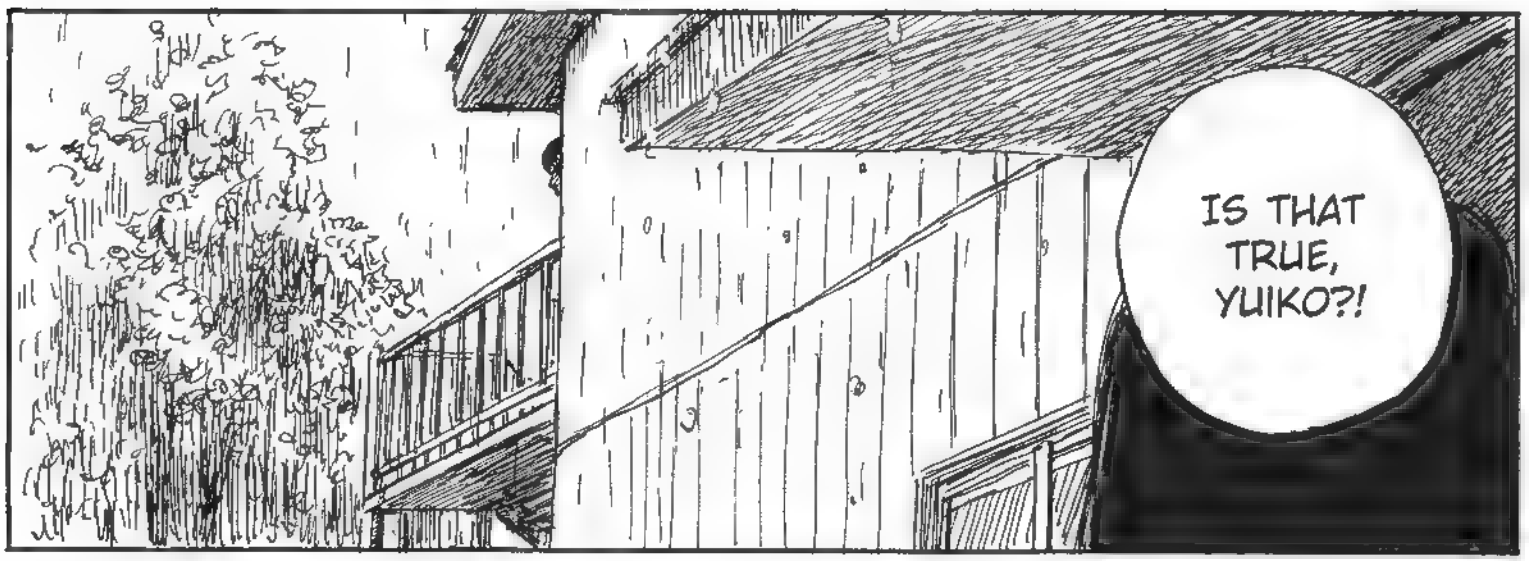
HUFF
HUFF...

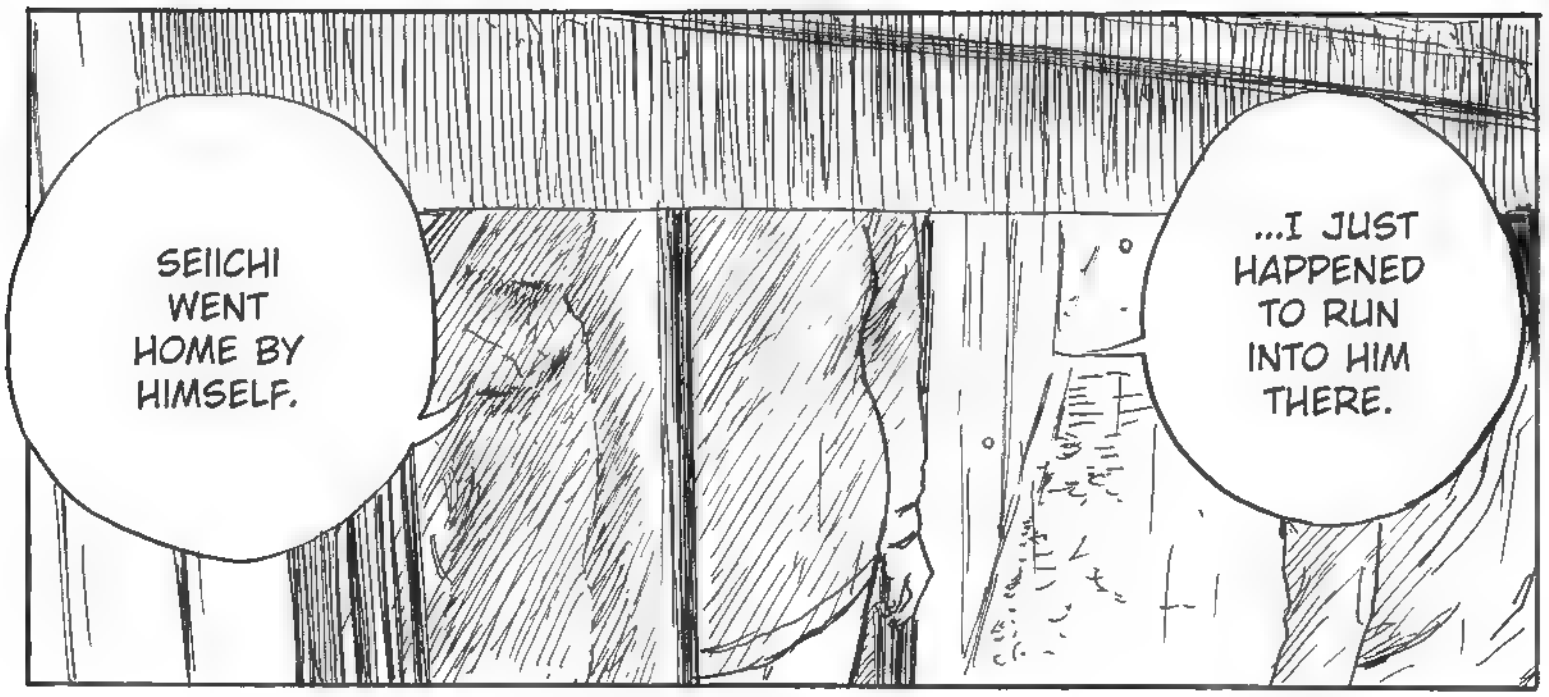
YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT ?!
LISTEN... HER SON SEIICHI'S GONE MISSING, I GUESS!
YUIKO, THERE YOU ARE!


...NO.


YUIKO...

YOU WERE WITH HIM... AT THE RIVERBANK...
LAST NIGHT... WHAT DID YOU DO AFTER... ALL THAT?


IS THAT TRUE, YUIKO?!


SEIICHI WENT HOME BY HIMSELF.
...I JUST HAPPENED TO RUN INTO HIM THERE.

REALLY?

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S YOUR FAULT IF SEIICHI WON'T COME HOME?

HOW WOULD I KNOW?

COME ON, APOLOGIZE TO HER!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO RUDE?

YUIKO... WHAT THE HELL?!

...NO.

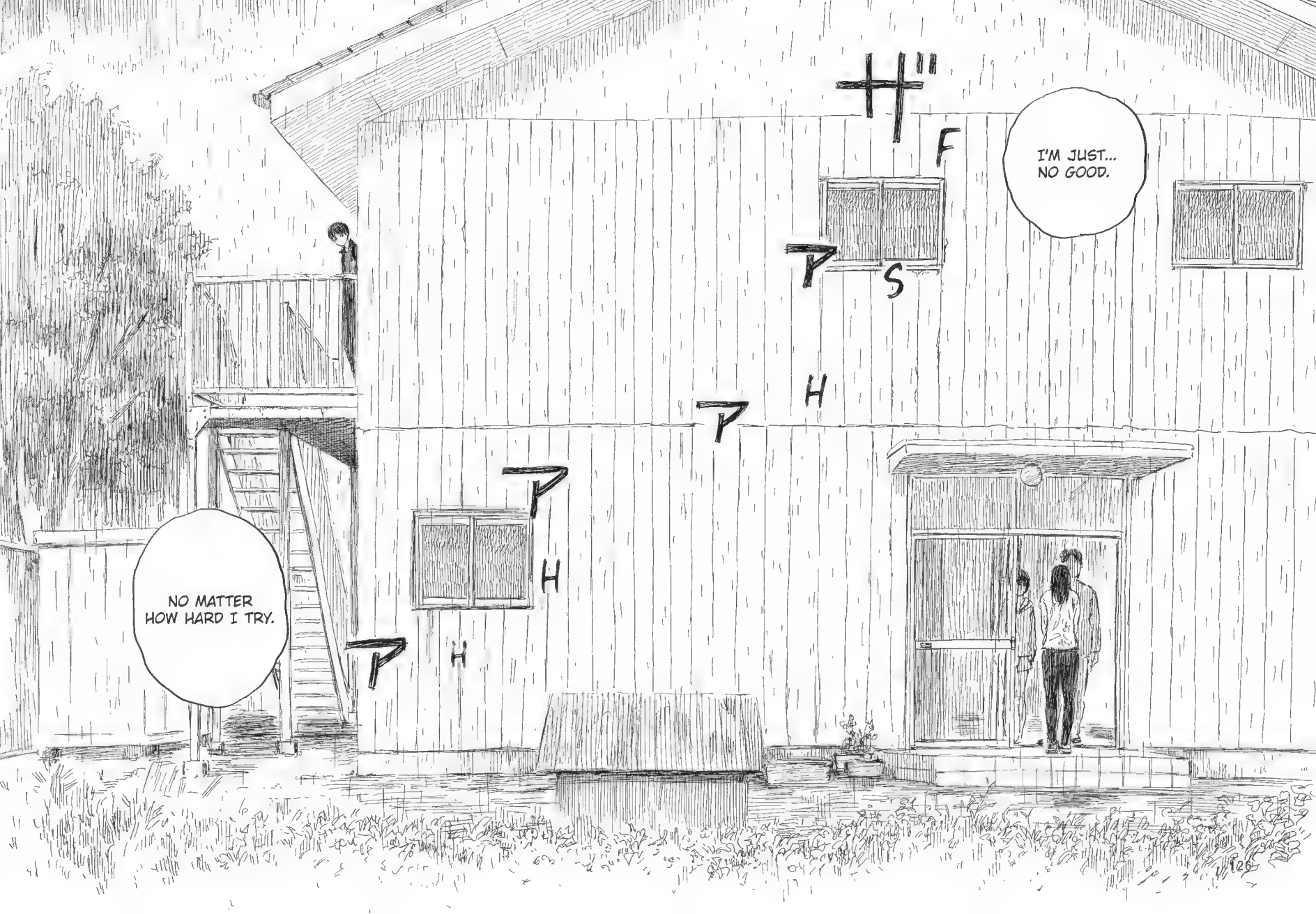
SHE'S RIGHT.

IT'S ALL MY FAULT...

SHE'S RIGHT...

IT'S ALL MY FAULT...

FSHH


I'M JUST... NO GOOD.
NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY.

I'M TOO OLD TO BE SAYING THIS...

HEE HEE...

I CAN'T DO THINGS THE WAY EVERYONE ELSE DOES.

BUT... I'M NOT LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.

I JUST CAN'T ACCEPT IT.

I CAN'T...

MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'M GOING TO LOSE MY MIND.

JUST THE THOUGHT OF MY LITTLE SEI FALLING PREY TO A GIRL LIKE YOU...

HUH...?

FORGIVE ME.

FORGIVE ME.

FORGIVE ME...

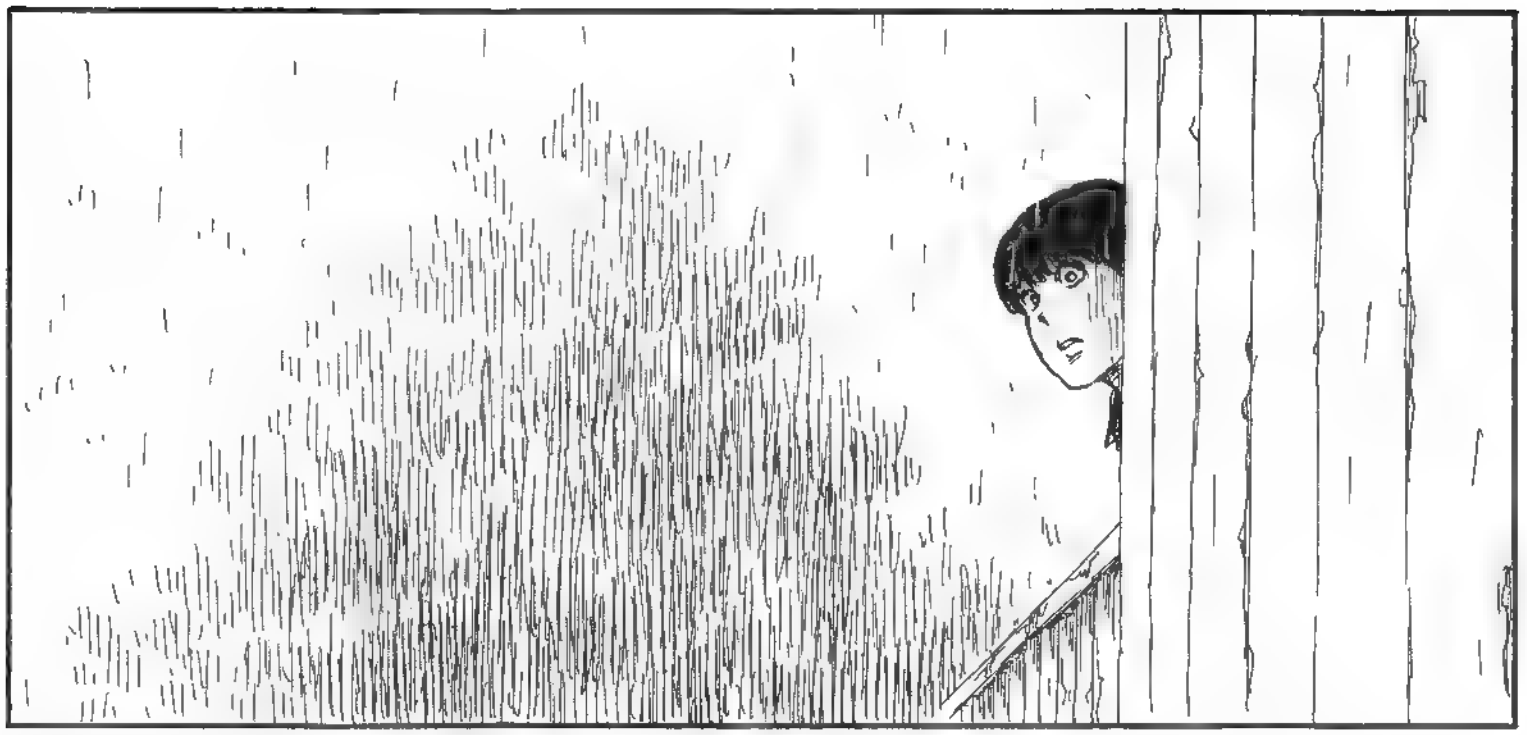
I KNOW IT'S MY OWN FAULT...

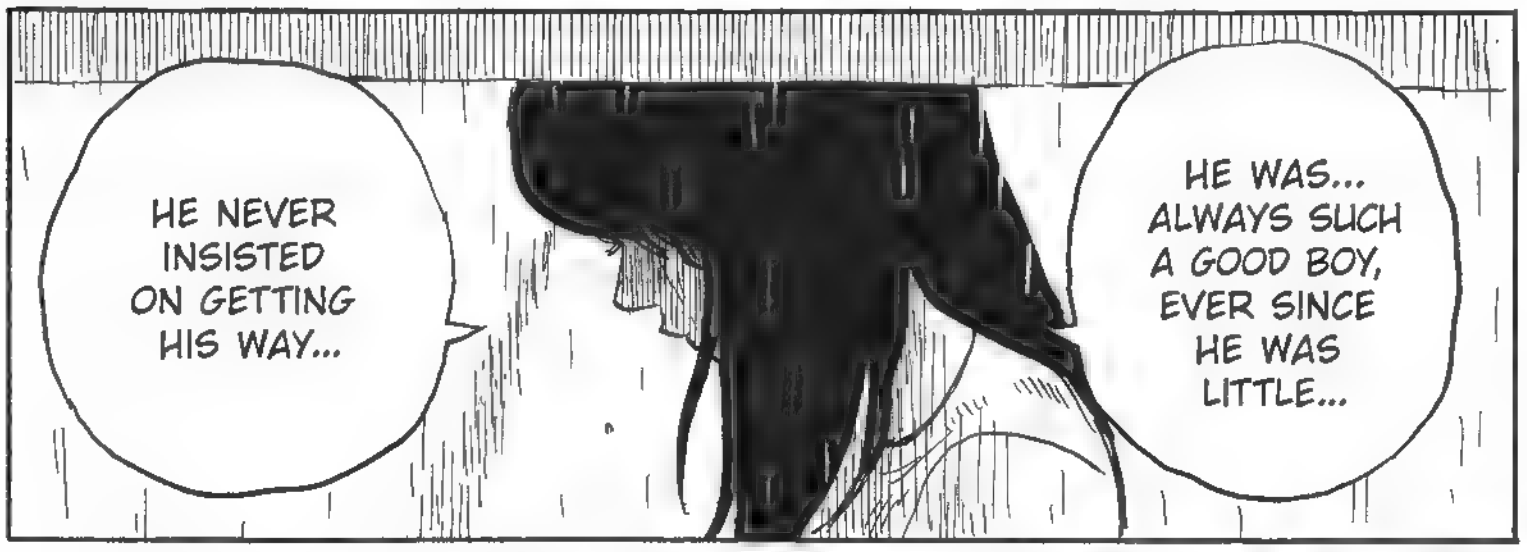
BUT STILL, PLEASE FORGIVE ME...

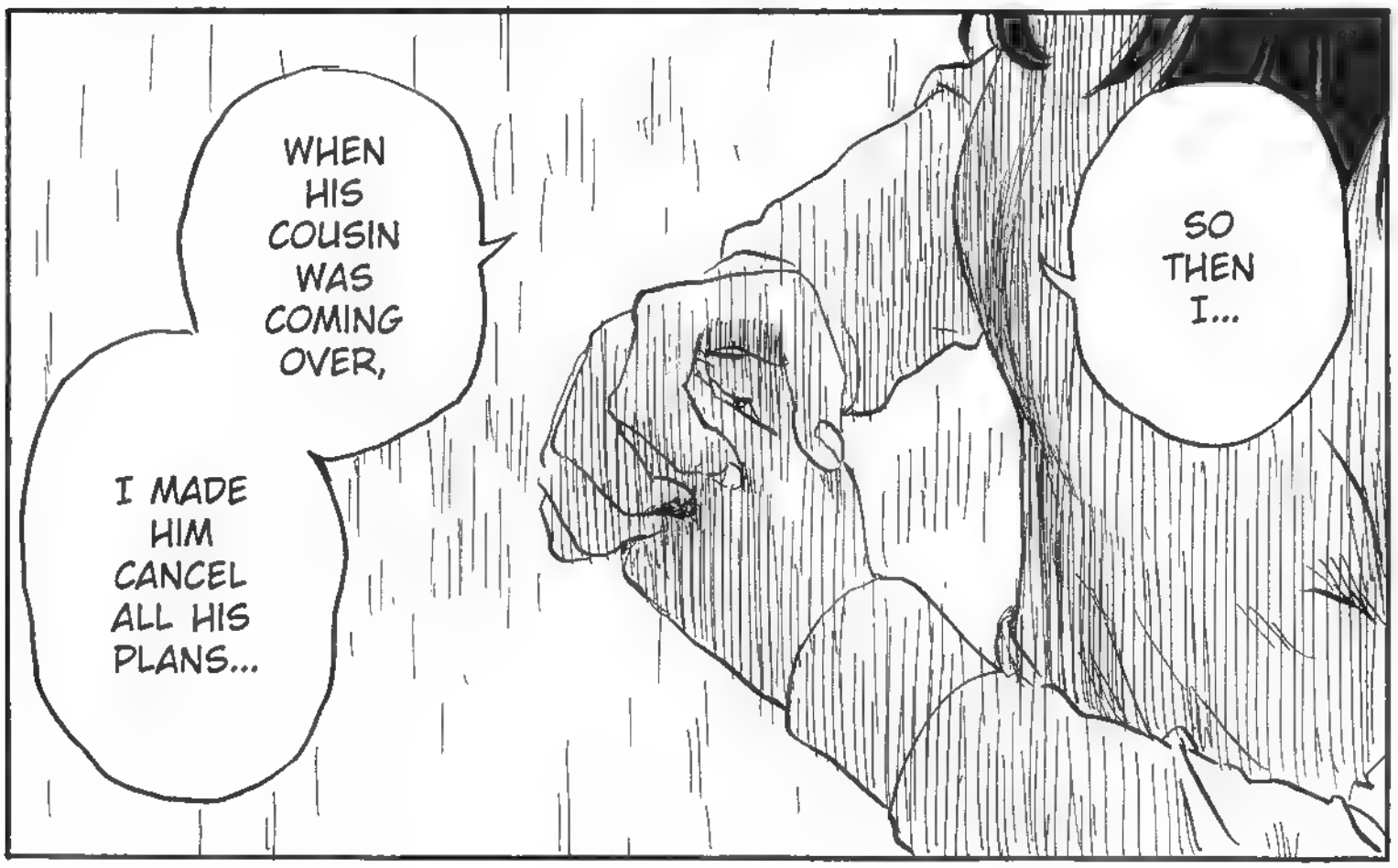
I'M SORRY...

IT'S... MY FAULT...

I'VE MADE HIM SUFFER SO MUCH, I GUESS...




HE NEVER INSISTED ON GETTING HIS WAY...
HE WAS... ALWAYS SUCH A GOOD BOY, EVER SINCE HE WAS LITTLE...


WHEN HIS COUSIN WAS COMING OVER,
I MADE HIM CANCEL ALL HIS PLANS...
SO THEN I...

AND HIS SUMMER JOURNAL... JUST SAID, "MY COUSIN CAME OVER," "MY COUSIN CAME OVER"...

SO HE SPENT ALL HIS FREE TIME WITH HIS COUSIN...

I FELT SO MISERABLE... SO ASHAMED...

LOOKING AT THAT, I...

SO IN THE END, IT'S ALL MY FAULT...

AND YET... I STILL COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING...

I'M SORRY, SEI. FORGIVE ME...? PLEASE...?
IT'S... IT'S ALL MOMMY'S FAULT...
NO ONE... EVER WANTED ME...
NO ONE EVER LOVED ME...

I JUST WANTED TO GIVE SEI...

SO...

ALL THE LOVE I NEVER GOT...

NO ONE... NO ONE EVER REALLY... SAW ME...!

BUT THEY... CALLED ME OVERPROTECTIVE, THEY LAUGHED AT ME...

UM, MISSUS...

ALL HE DOES IS TALK. HE'S NEVER ACTUALLY THERE FOR ME!

EVEN DADDY... IN THE END, HE'S ALWAYS ON THEIR SIDE!

THAT I WAS ABLE TO GO ON...

I DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER REASON TO LIVE...

BUT EVEN SO, I HAD SEI...

IT WAS ONLY BECAUSE OF HIM...

BUT... IF THAT'S JUST... HURTING HIM...

...BUT...

THEN WHAT'S THE POINT? WHAT REASON DO I HAVE...

TO GO ON LIVING?

¡HNNNNH!
UHNH...
...NNN...

SEI!!!

SEI...

SEI!!

SEI...

SEIIN

IEEE

PLEASE... UM... PLEASE CALM DOWN!

MISSUS!

I'M SORRY...

...

YOU'RE BLEEDING!

YOUR HAND... ARE YOU OKAY?!

MOMMY...

FSHHH

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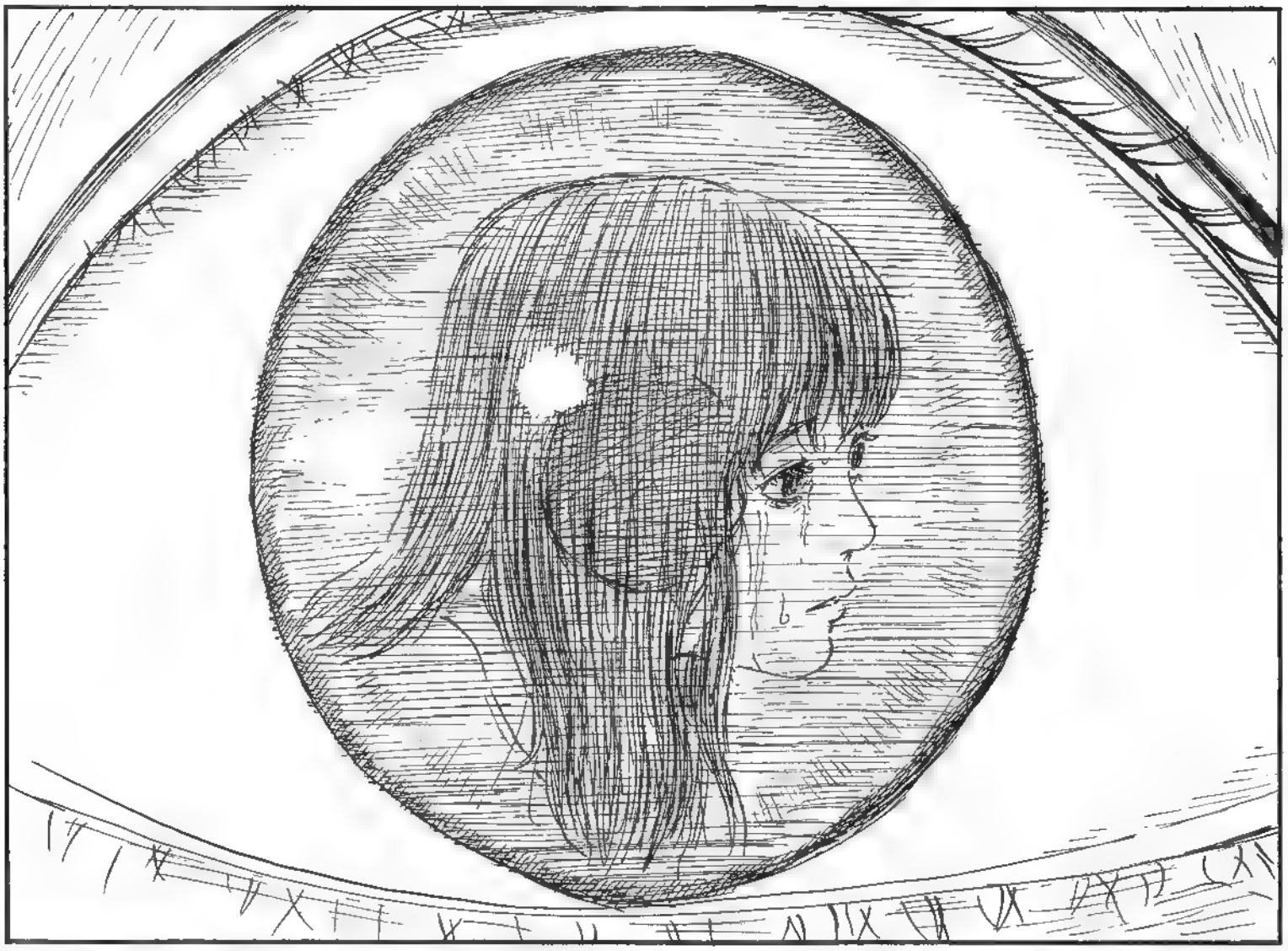
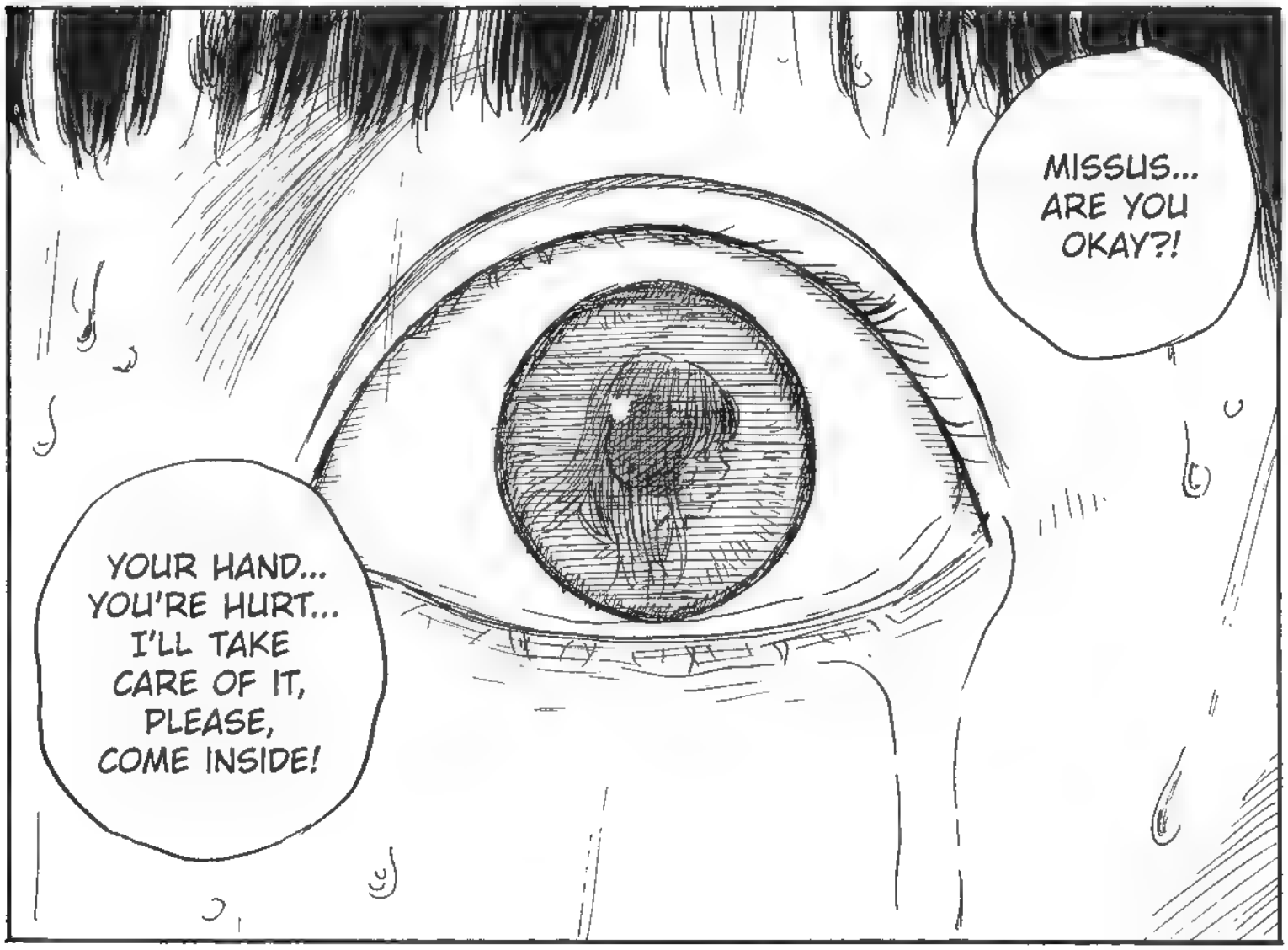



MISSUS... ARE YOU OKAY?!
YOUR HAND... YOU'RE HURT... I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT, PLEASE, COME INSIDE!

NO...

I'M FINE...

I HAVE TO FIND SEI...

BEEN LOOKING FOR HIM ALL NIGHT, HAVE YOU?

YOU HAVEN'T...

...YES.

WANT ME TO CALL THEM FOR YOU?
...YOU OUGHT TO TALK TO THE POLICE.

I'LL... KEEP LOOKING.
...NO...

...I'M SORRY.

BUT...

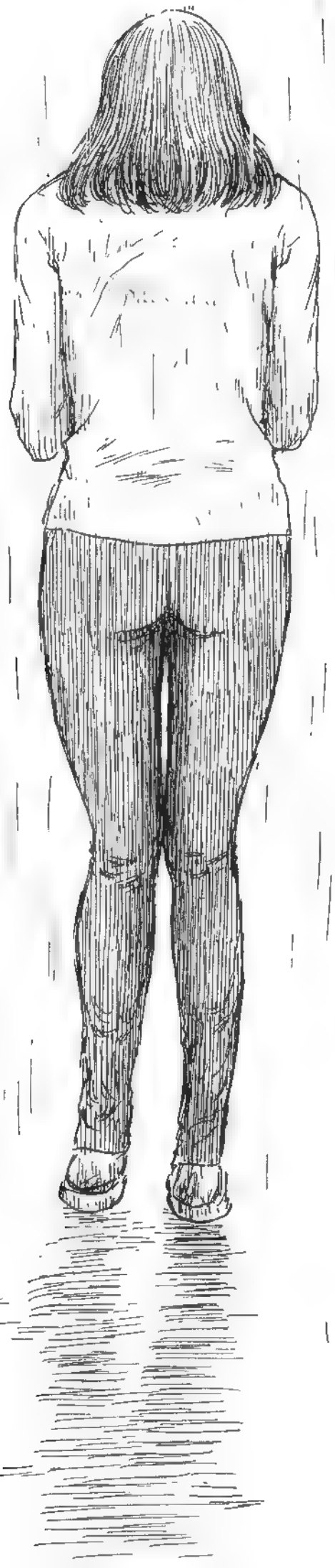
...YUIKO.

I'M SORRY.

I JUST... CAN'T APOLOGIZE ENOUGH.

FORGIVE ME FOR DISTURBING YOU...

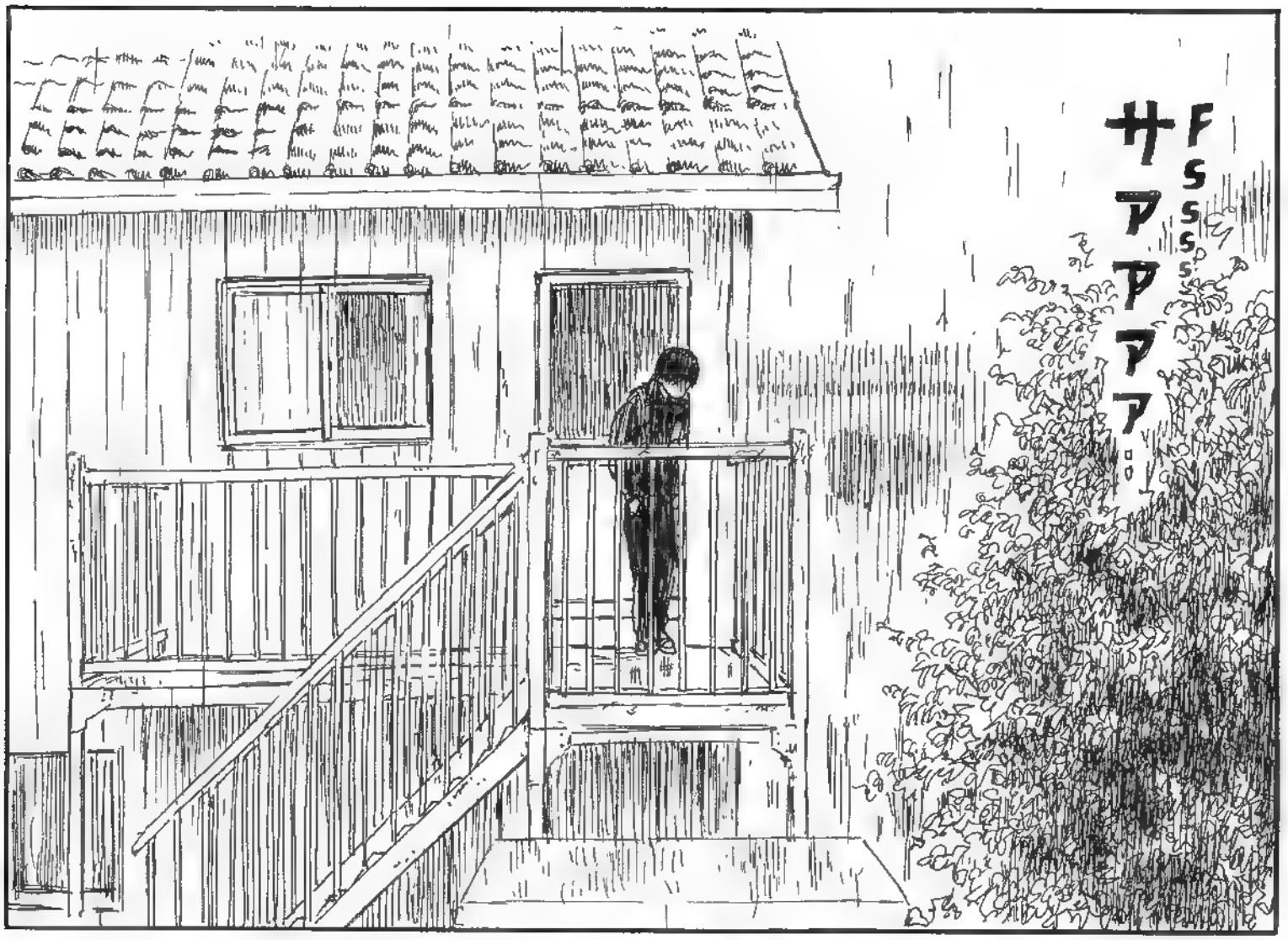
GOODBYE.



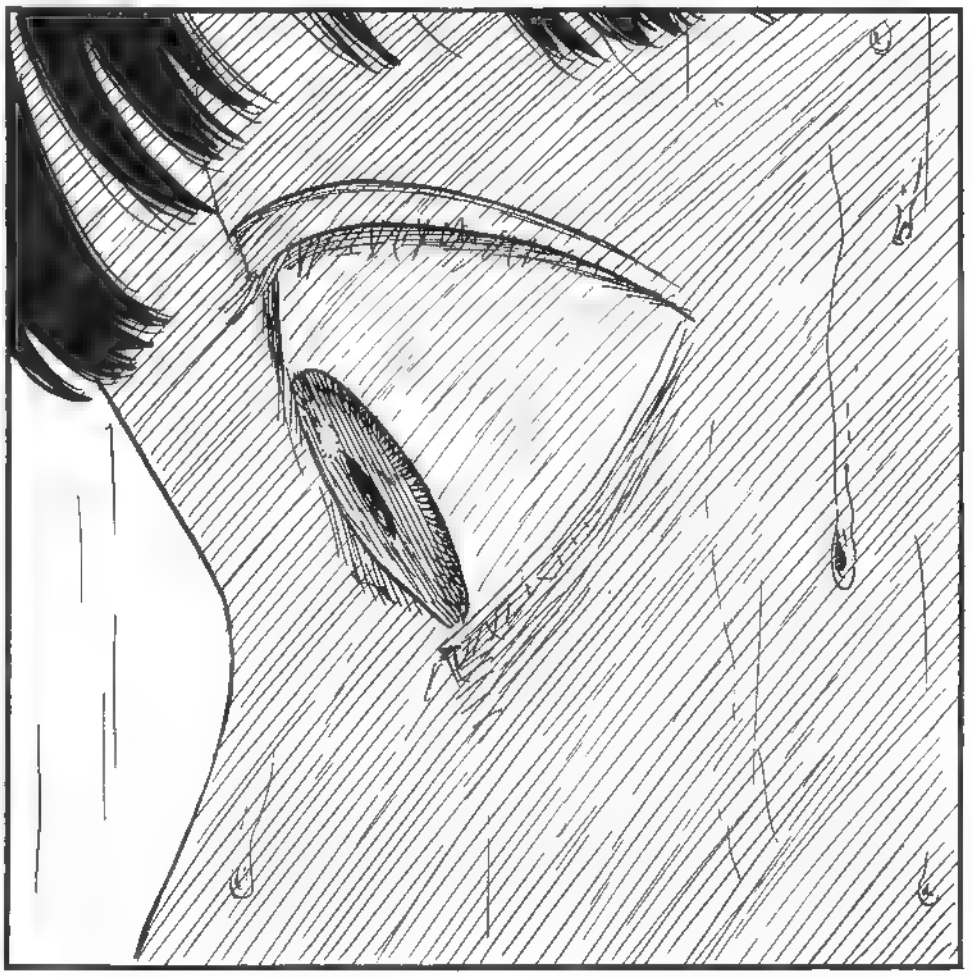
FSHHH
ザアアアアア……

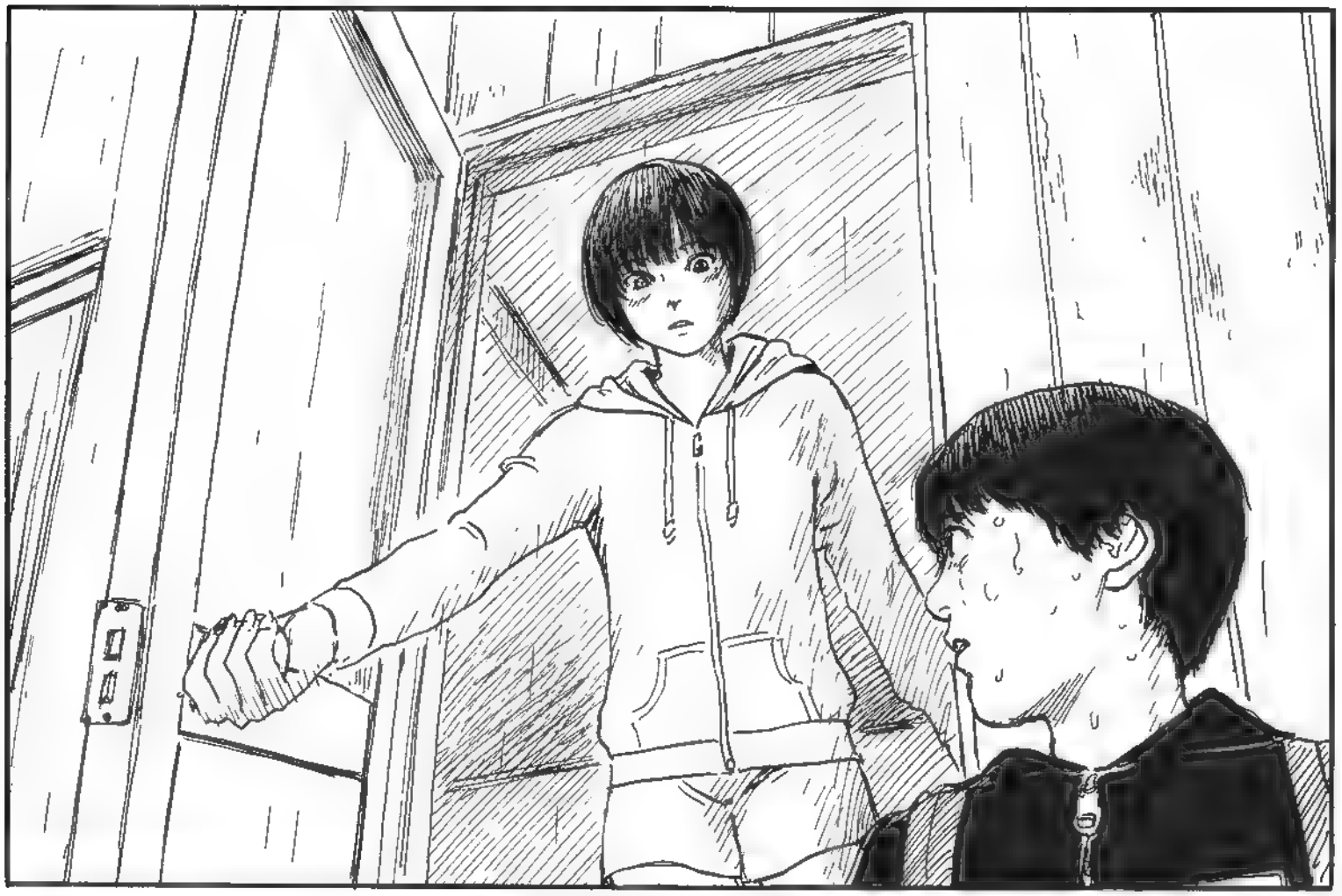
MISSUS, HERE... TAKE AN UMBRELLA!

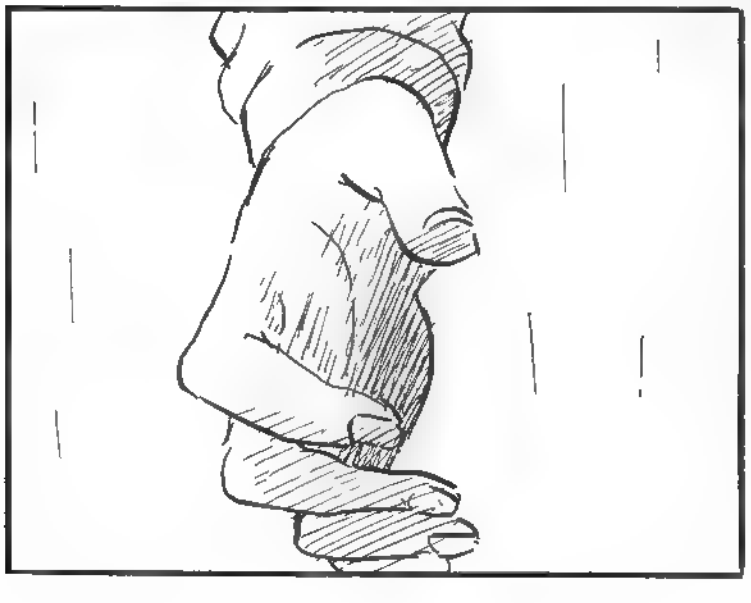
MISSUS!


FSSSS
SLUMP
FSSSS

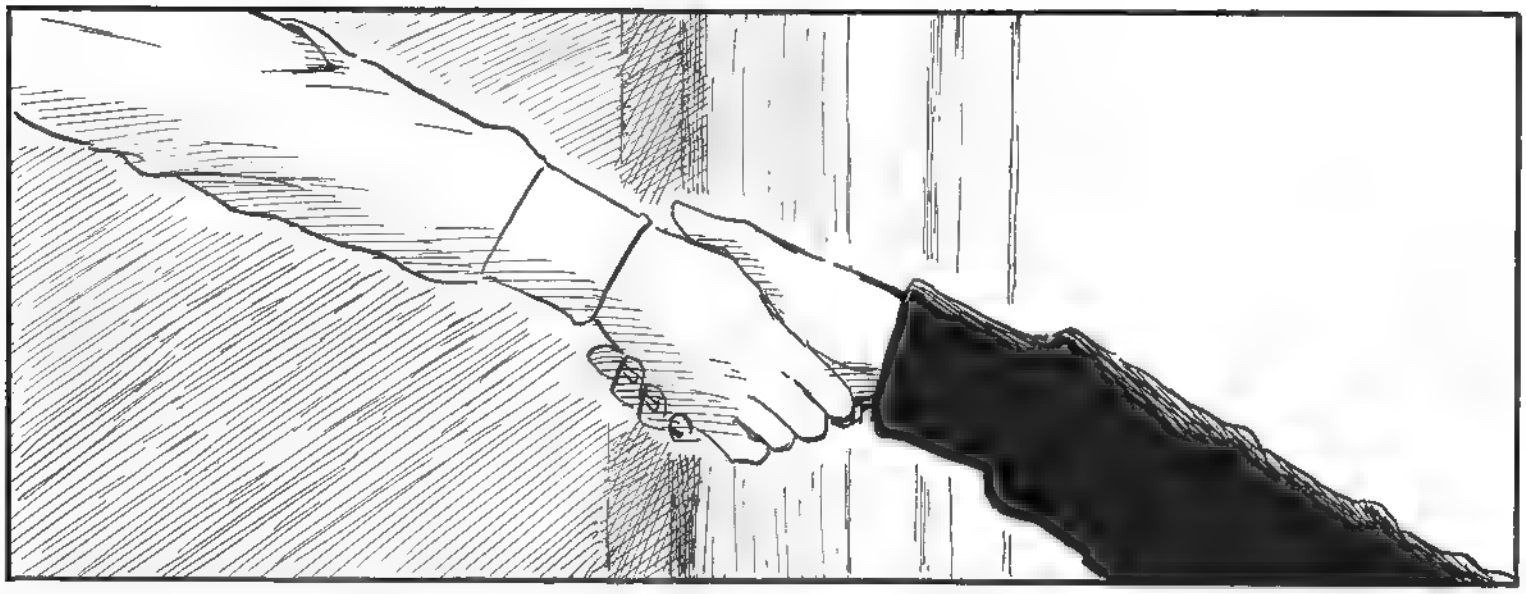
CHIK

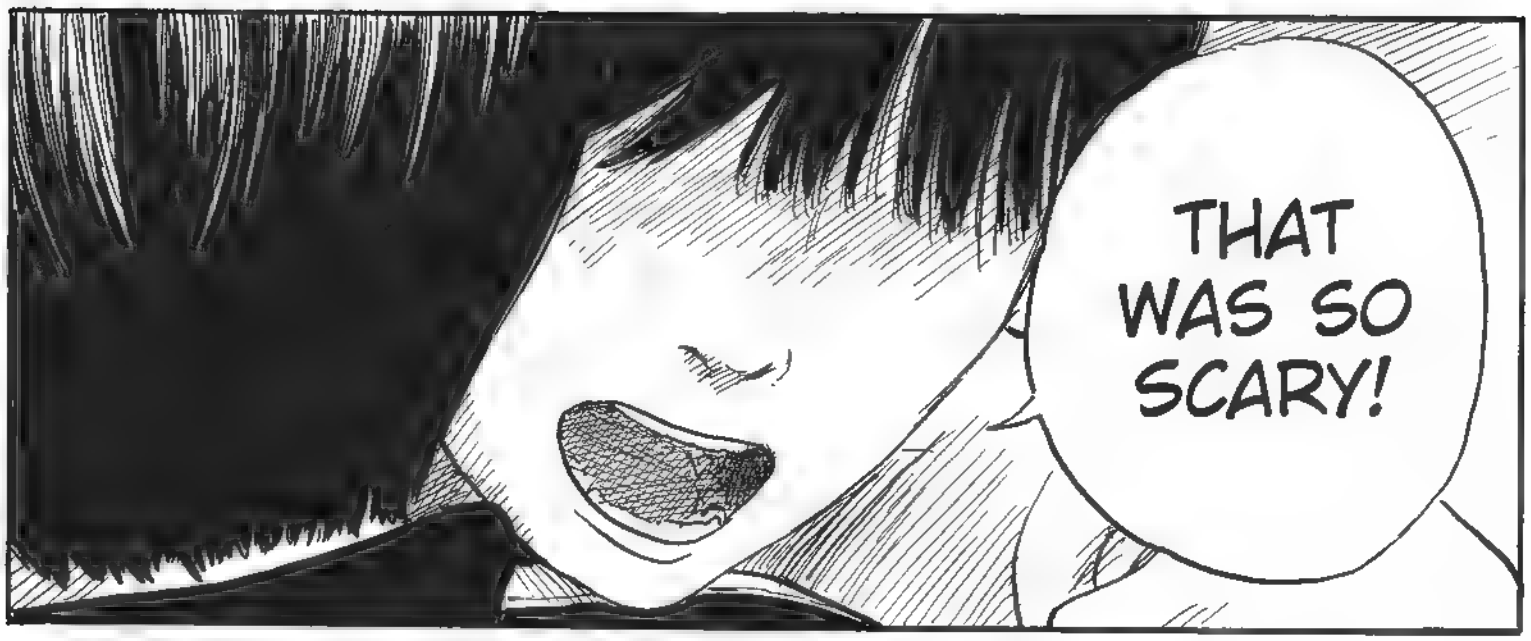






IT'S OKAY.
SHE'S GONE!




THAT WAS SO SCARY!

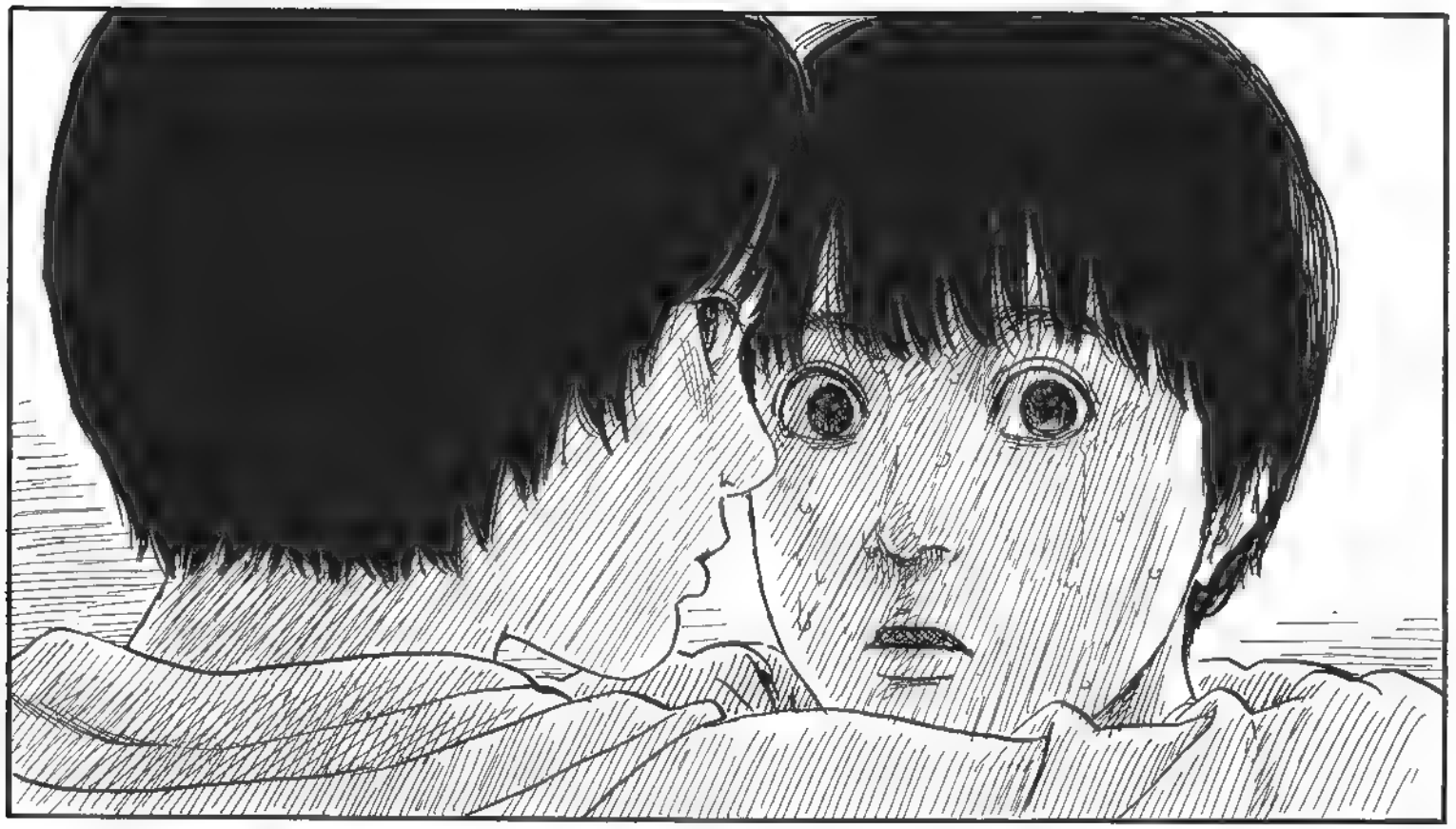
THAT MOM OF YOURS.
SHE REALLY IS TERRIFYING,

I FEEL SO SORRY FOR YOU, OSABE...

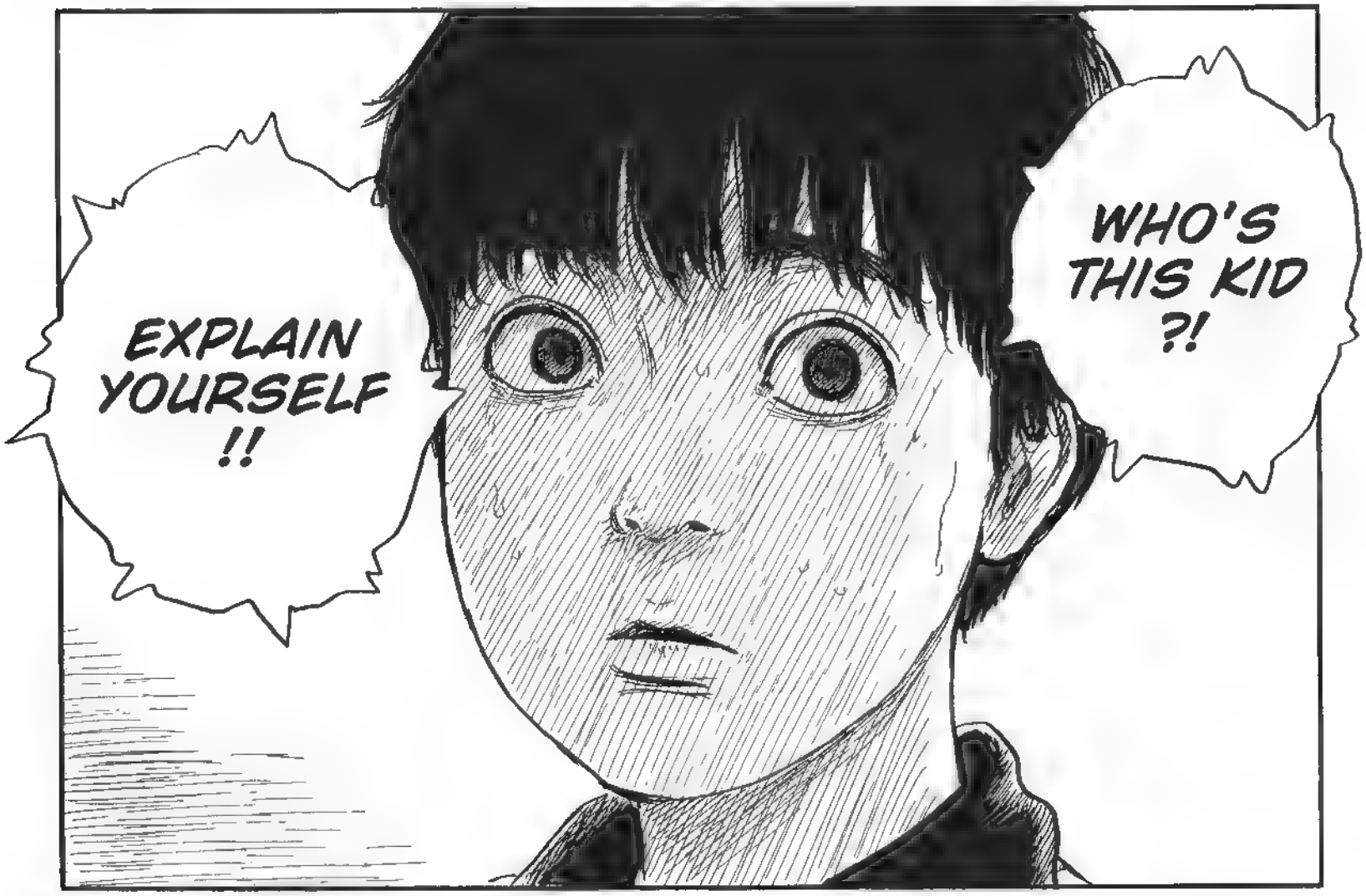
BUT TRUST ME.
I'LL PROTECT YOU.

KA-

CHAK



WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YUIKO!!


EXPLAIN YOURSELF !!
WHO'S THIS KID ?!

IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, DAD!!

...HE'S MY FRIEND! GET OUT!

WHO SAID YOU COULD COME IN HERE?!

HOW LONG HAS HE BEEN IN HERE ?!

YOUR FRIEND?! THIS MUST BE SEIICHI !!

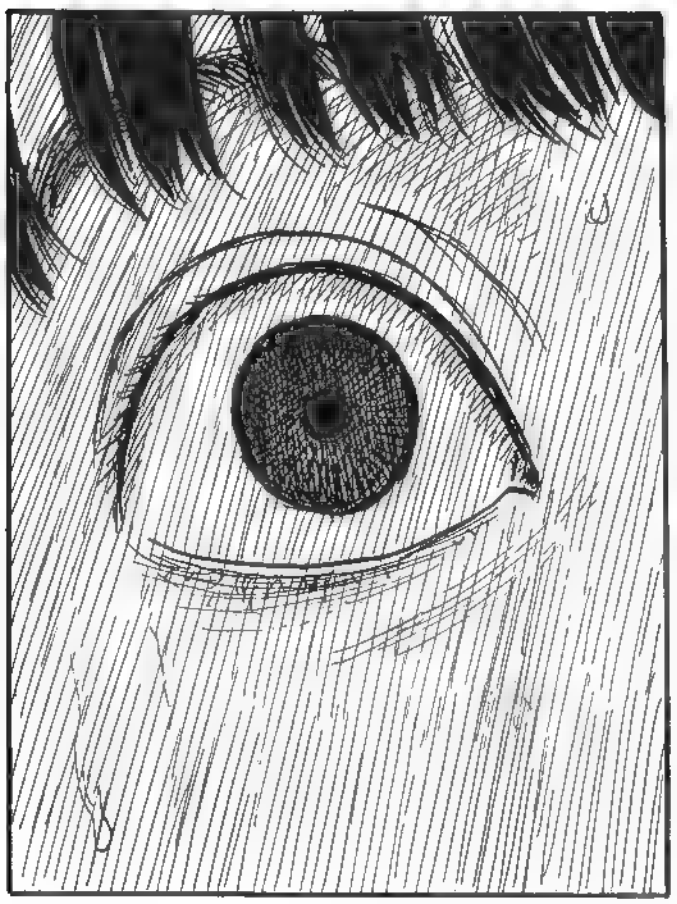
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ?!

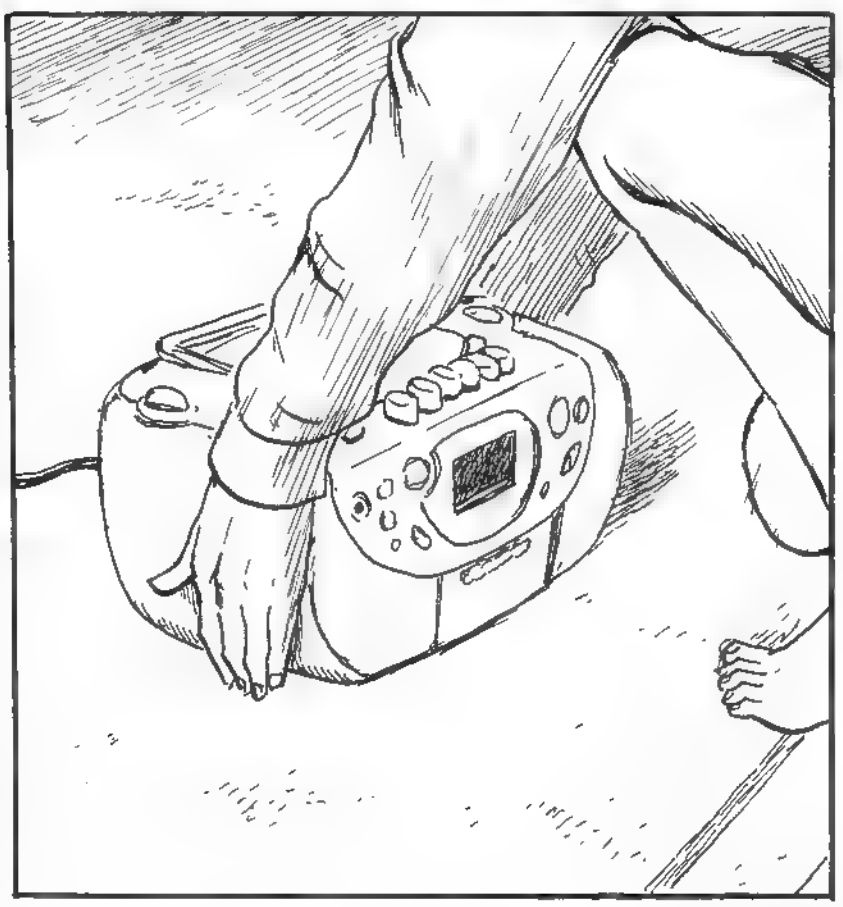
I CAN DO WHATEVER I WANT!!
SHUT UP!!
GET THE HELL OUT!!
YOU SCUM-BAG!!
DON'T TRY AND ACT LIKE A FATHER ALL OF A SUDDEN!!

AND BRINGING THIS... GUY... HOME!!

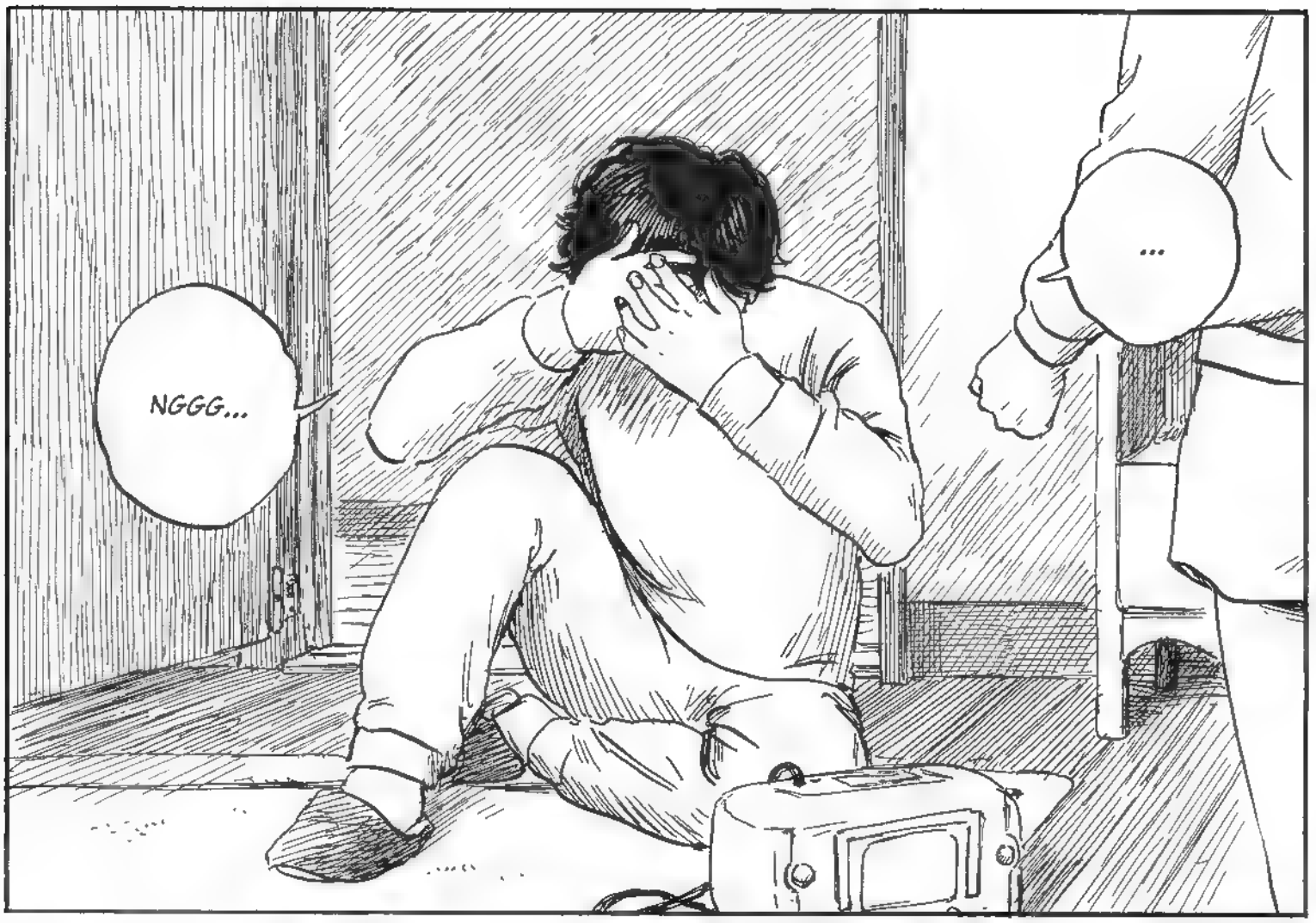
...YOU LITTLE SHIT!! IS THAT HOW YOU TALK TO YOUR FATHER ?!!

YOU'RE JUST LIKE YOUR MOTHER !!!

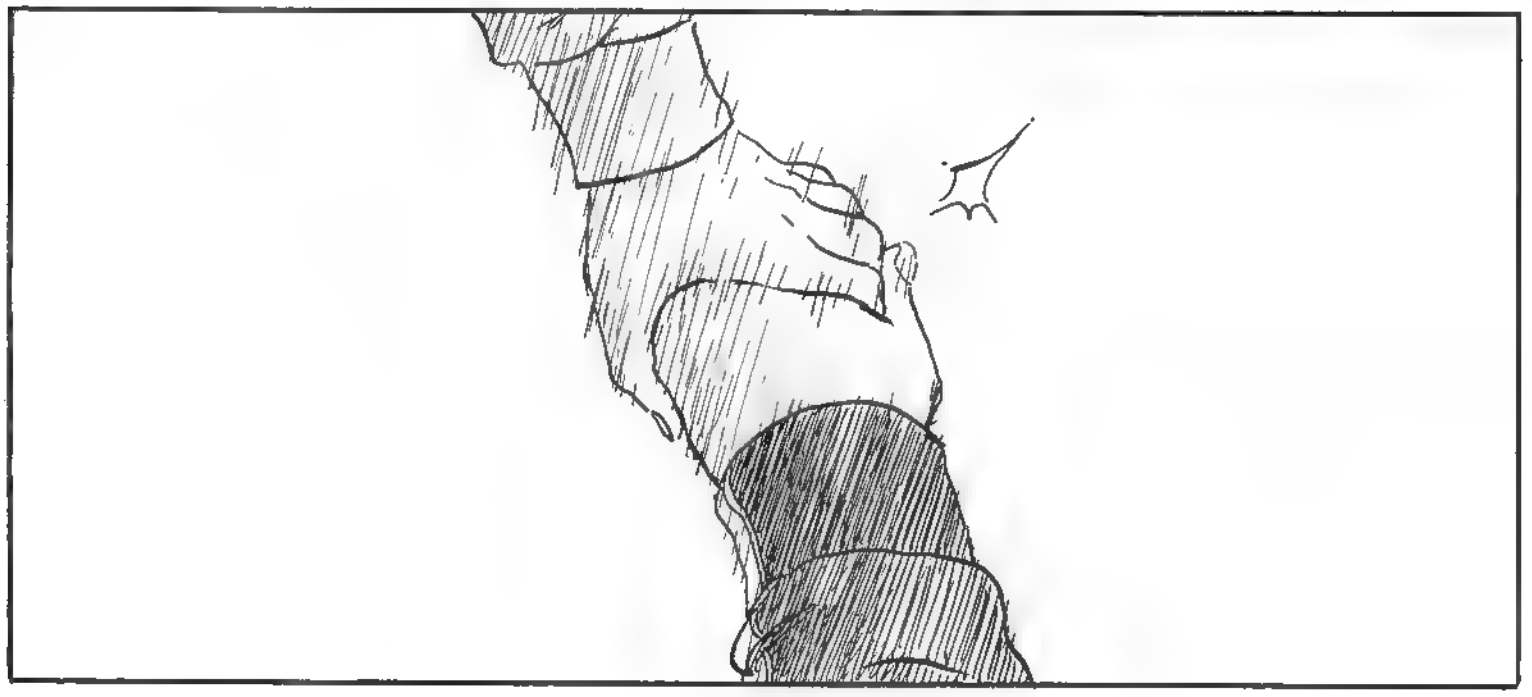




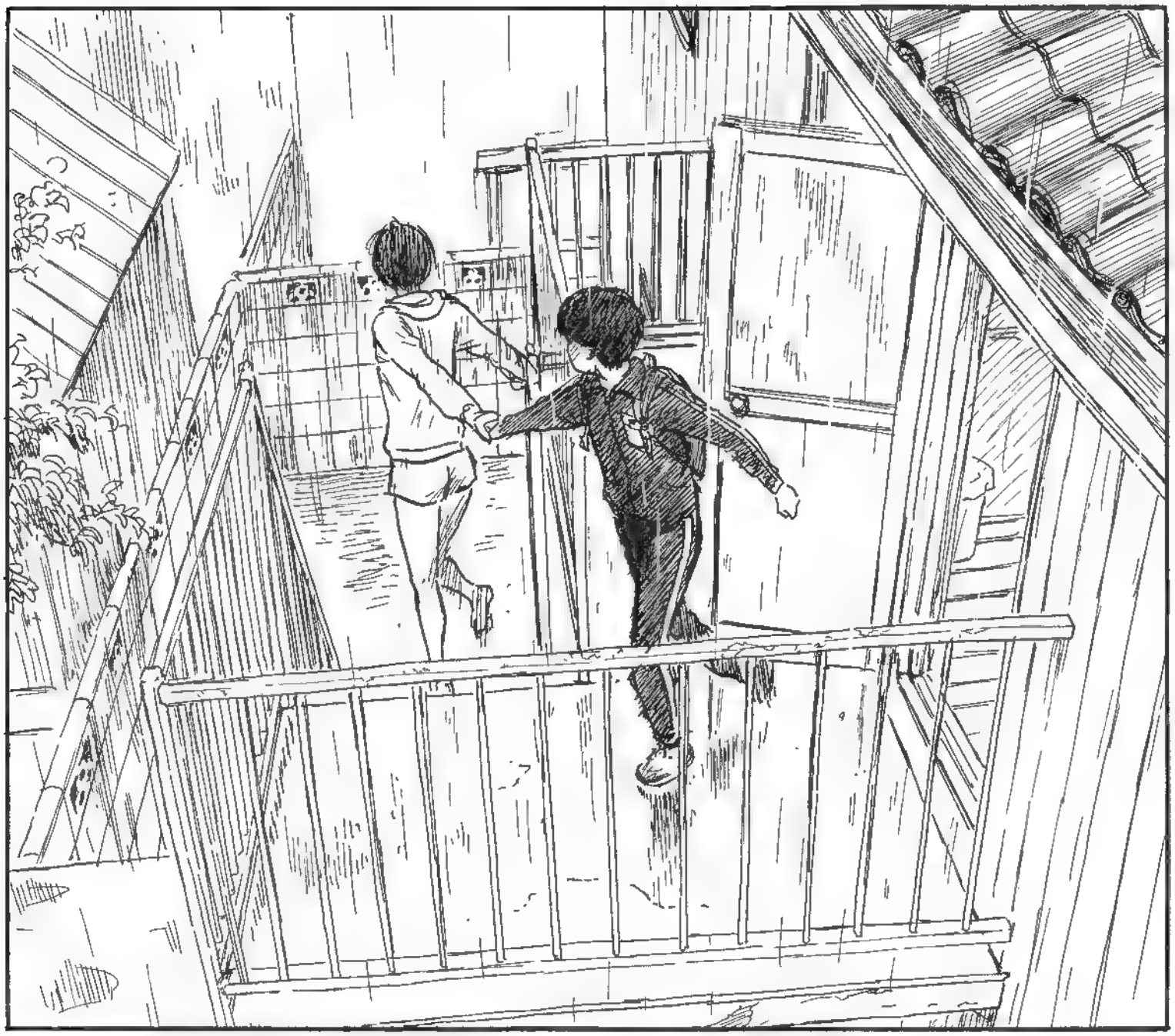
GONK


NGGG...
...

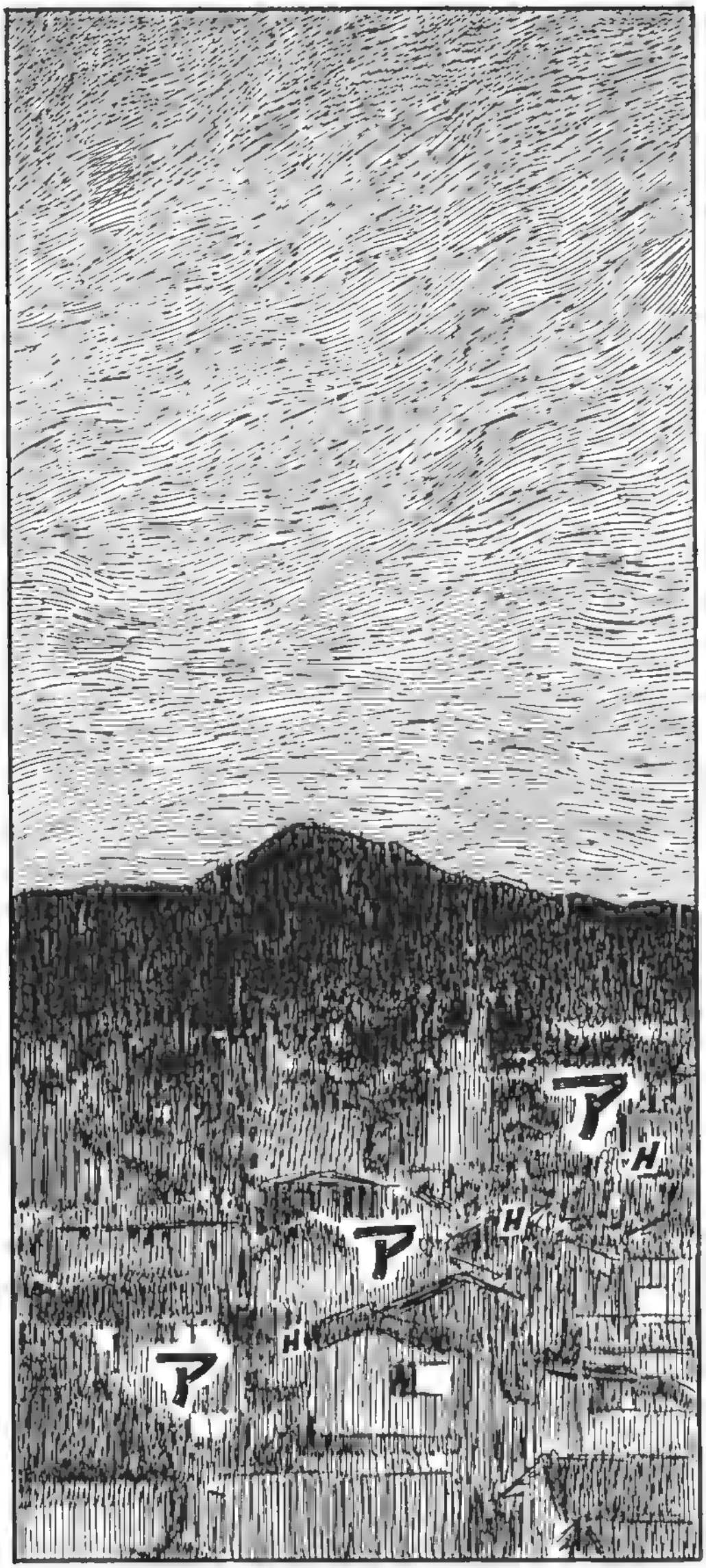
YUIKO...



RUN !!
OSABE!



YUIKO...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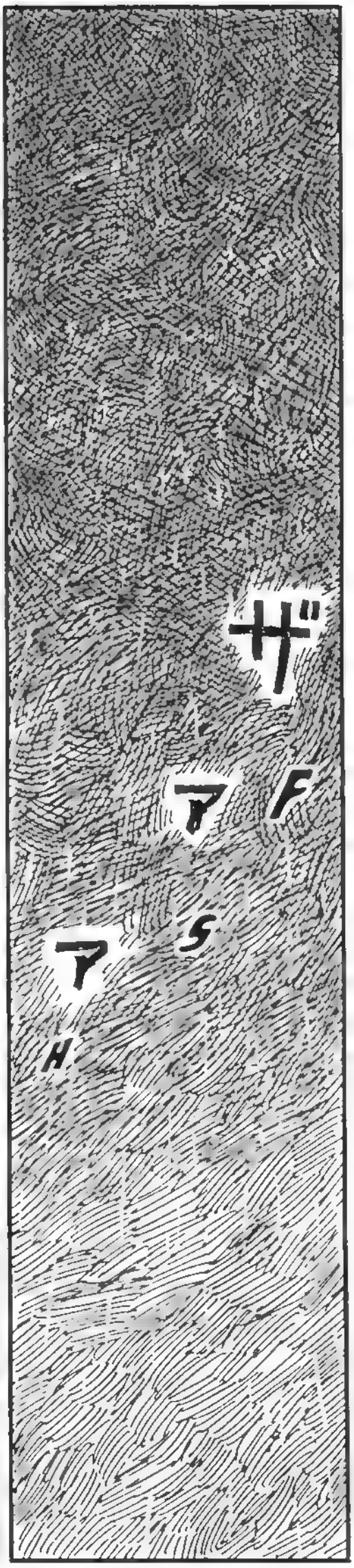
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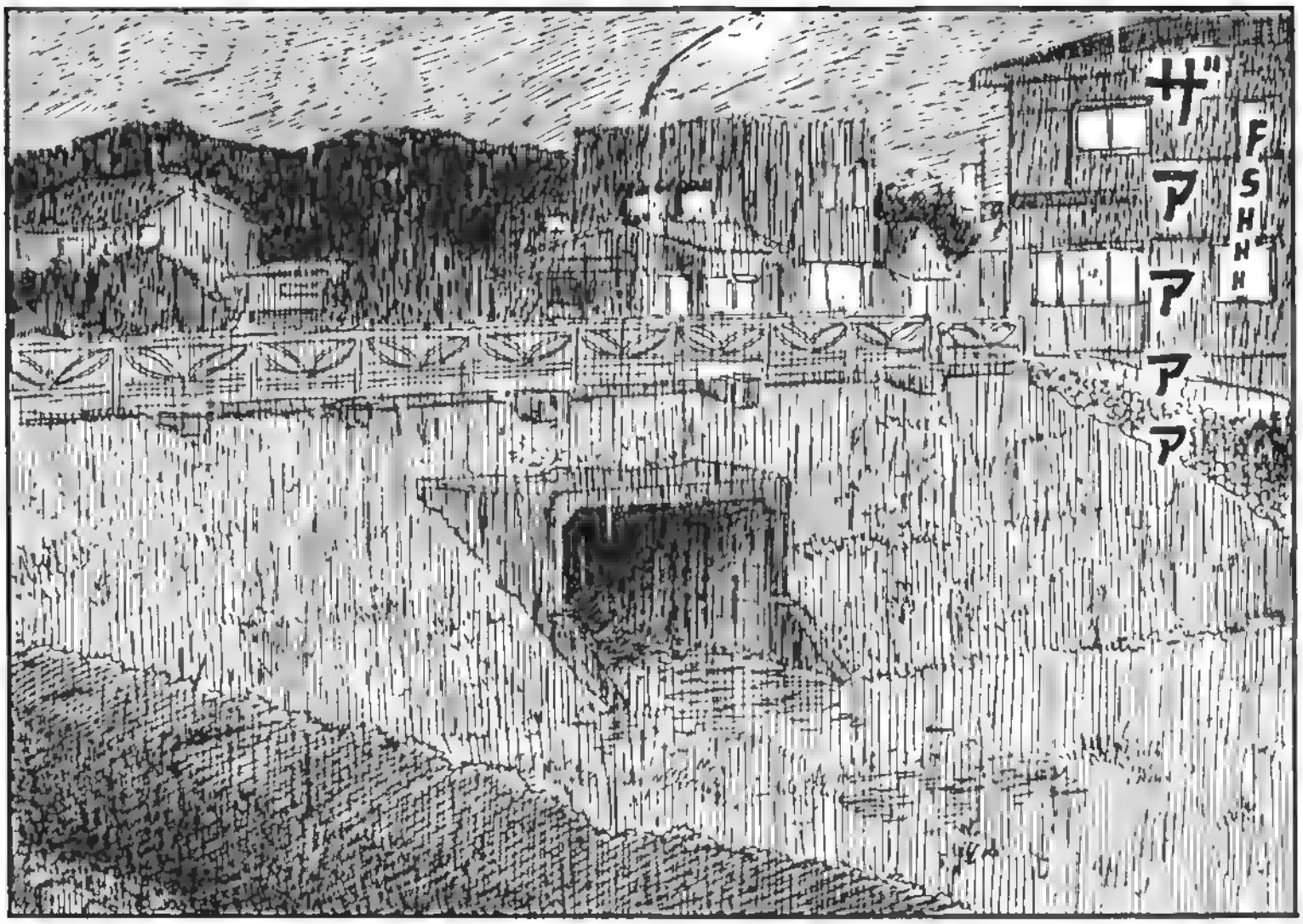
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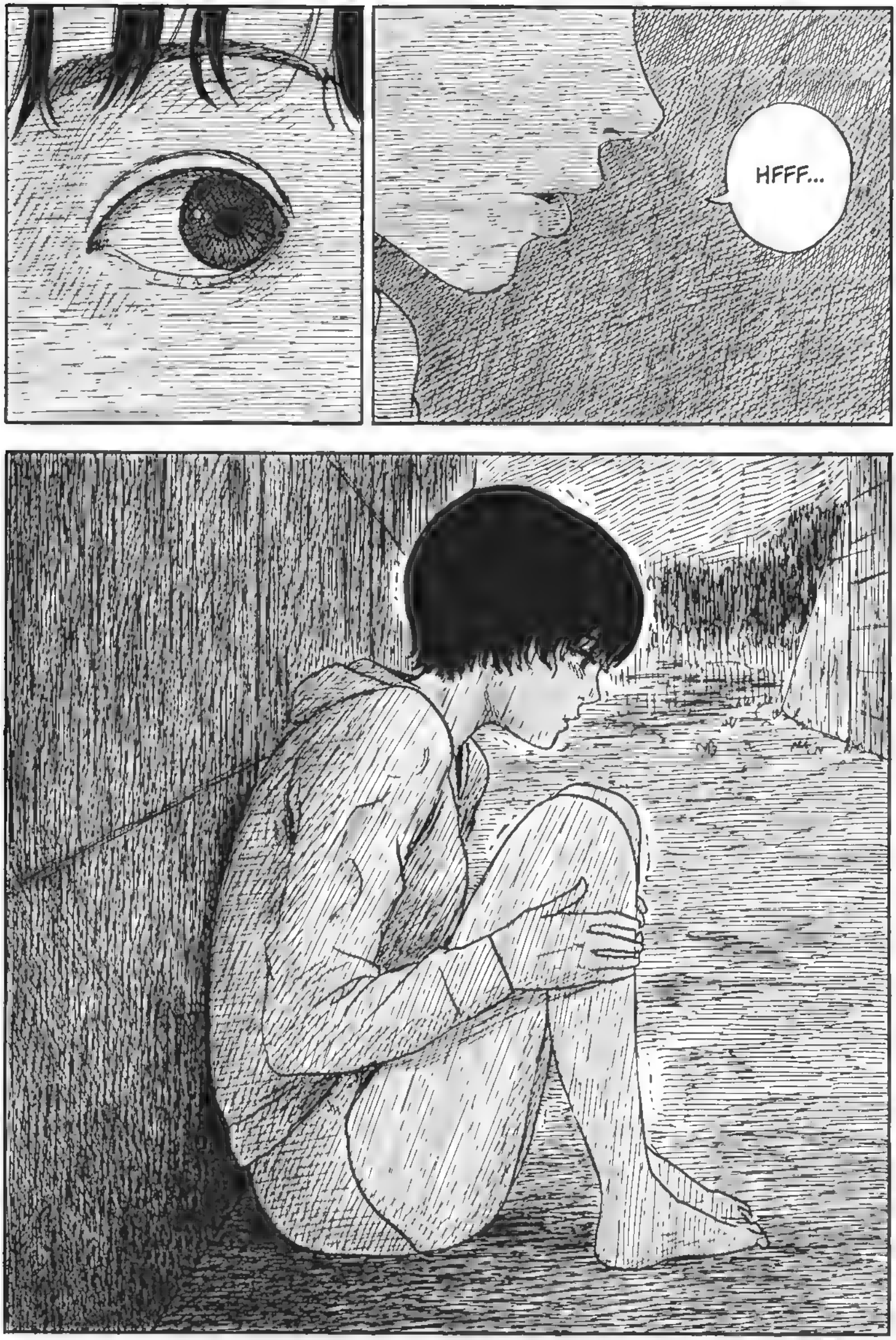
FSHHH
ザアアアア
FSHHH

ザアアアア
FSHHHH


HFFF...

NZZH
OSABE

WEAR THIS...
H... HERE...

I'M...

I'M FINE...

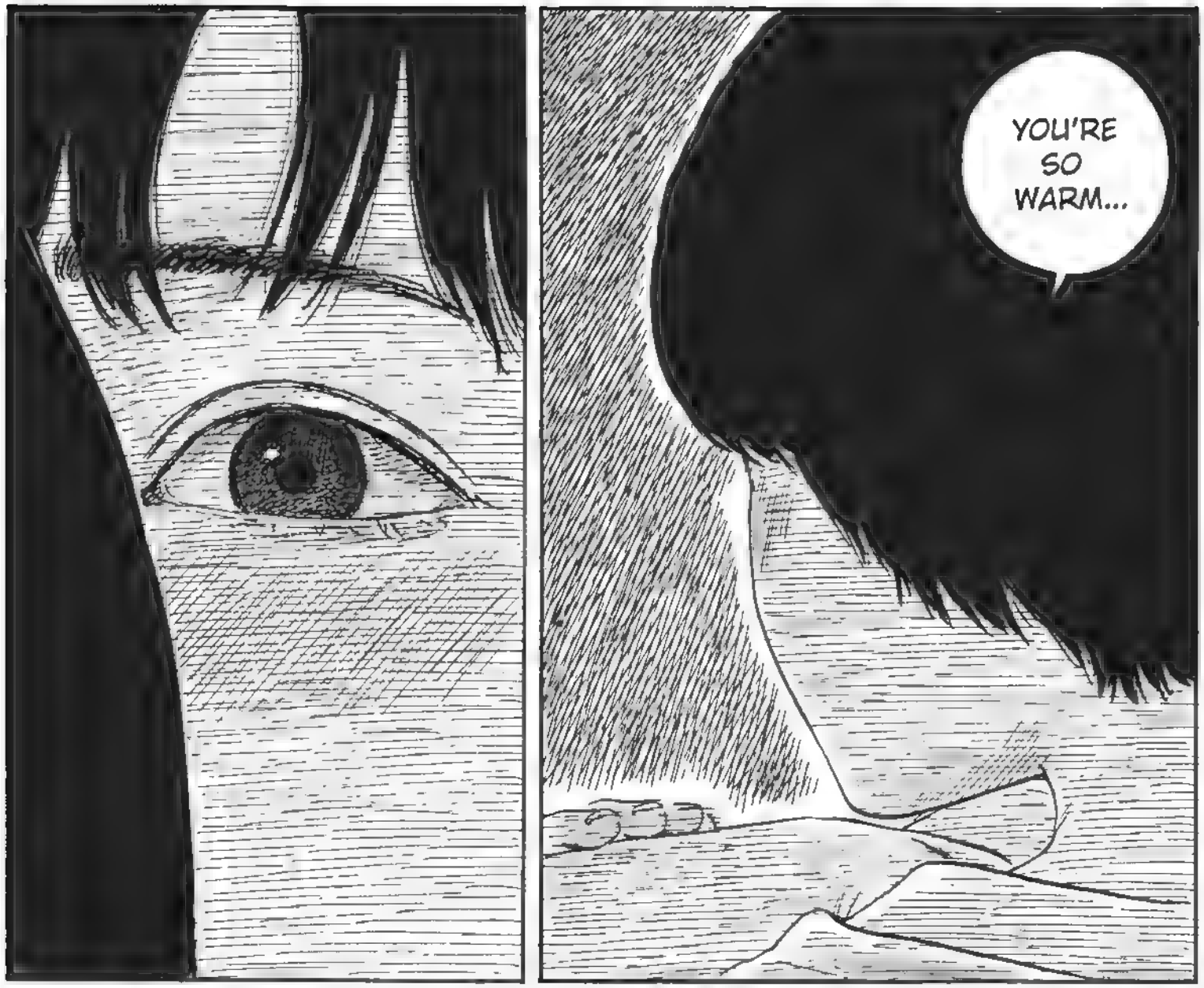
IT'S OKAY...

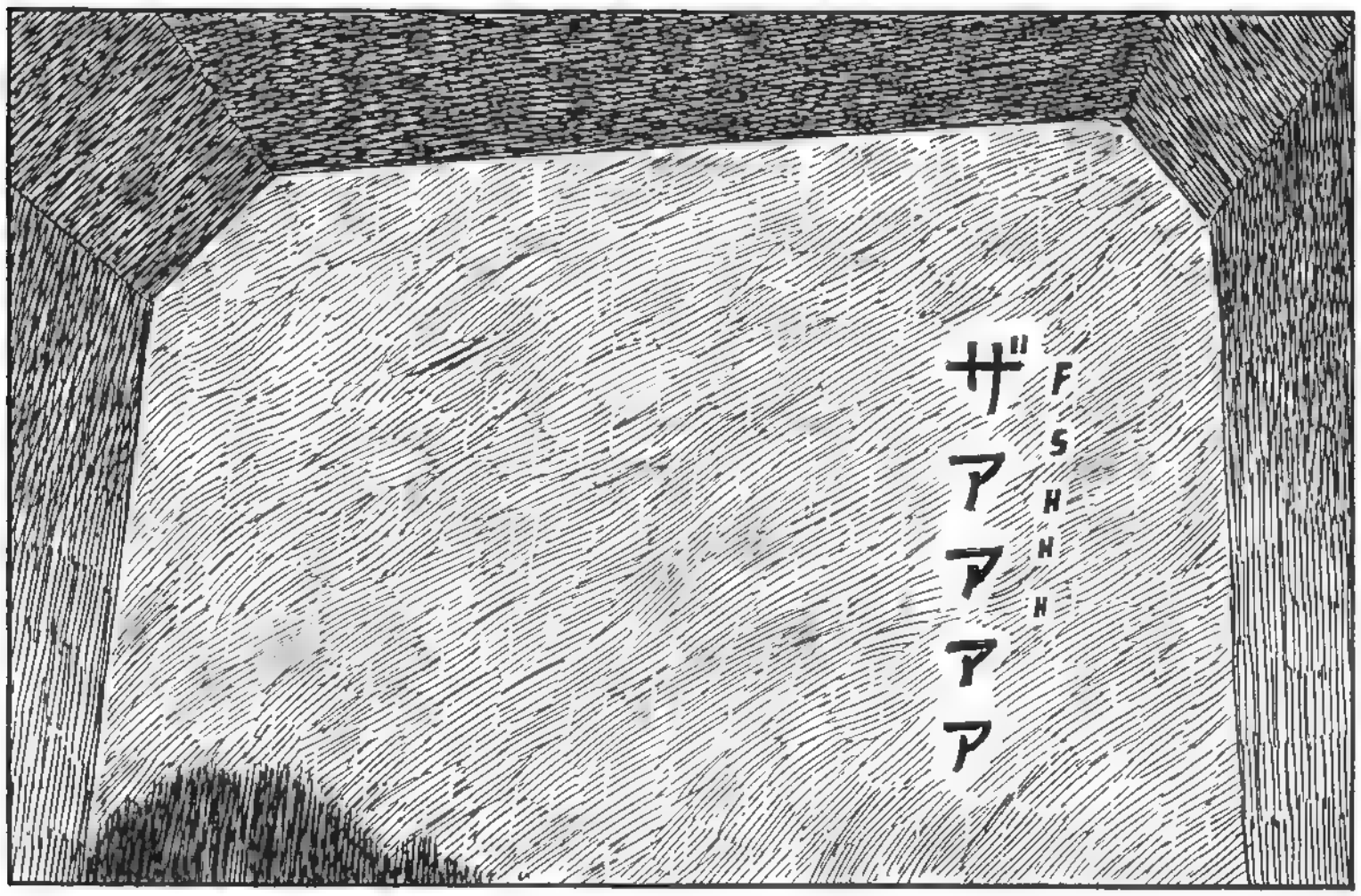
WON'T YOU BE COLD?

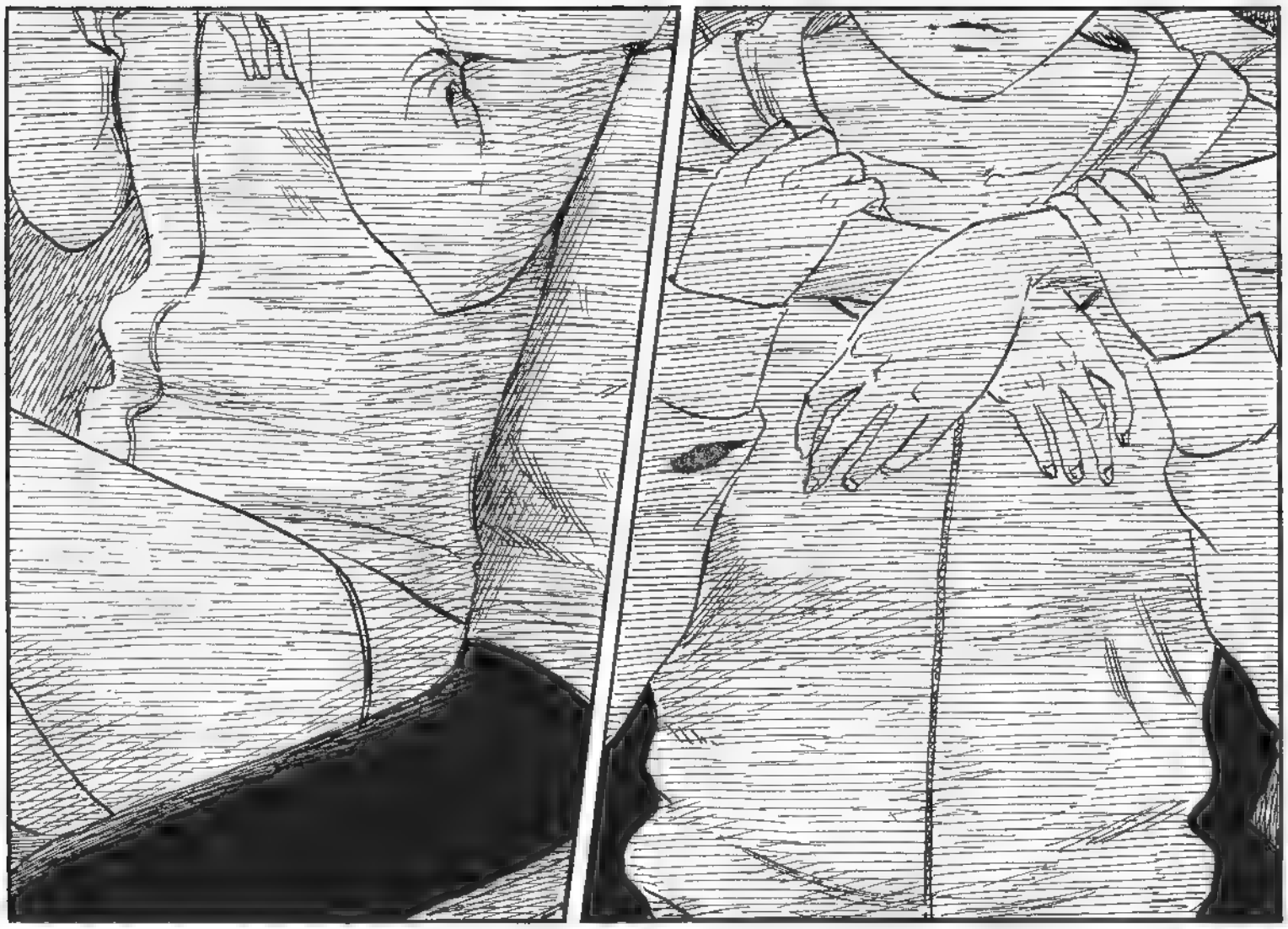
ALL RIGHT.

THEN, HOW 'BOUT THIS?

AHH...


YOU'RE SO WARM...


ザアアアア
FSHHHH

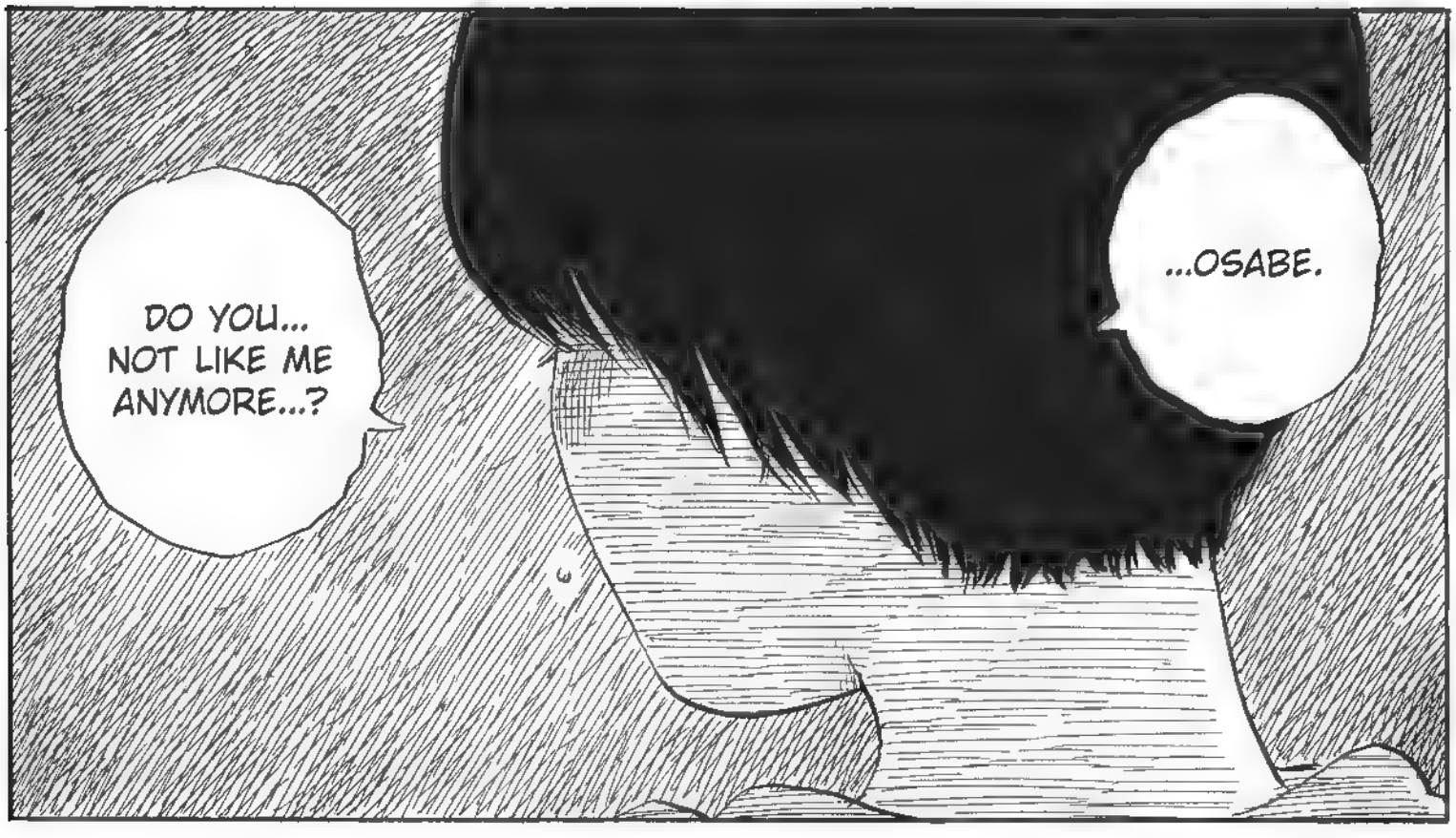


サアアアア
SHHH

sniff...

HFF...
NGK...

SNRFF...


DO YOU... NOT LIKE ME ANYMORE...?
...OSABE.

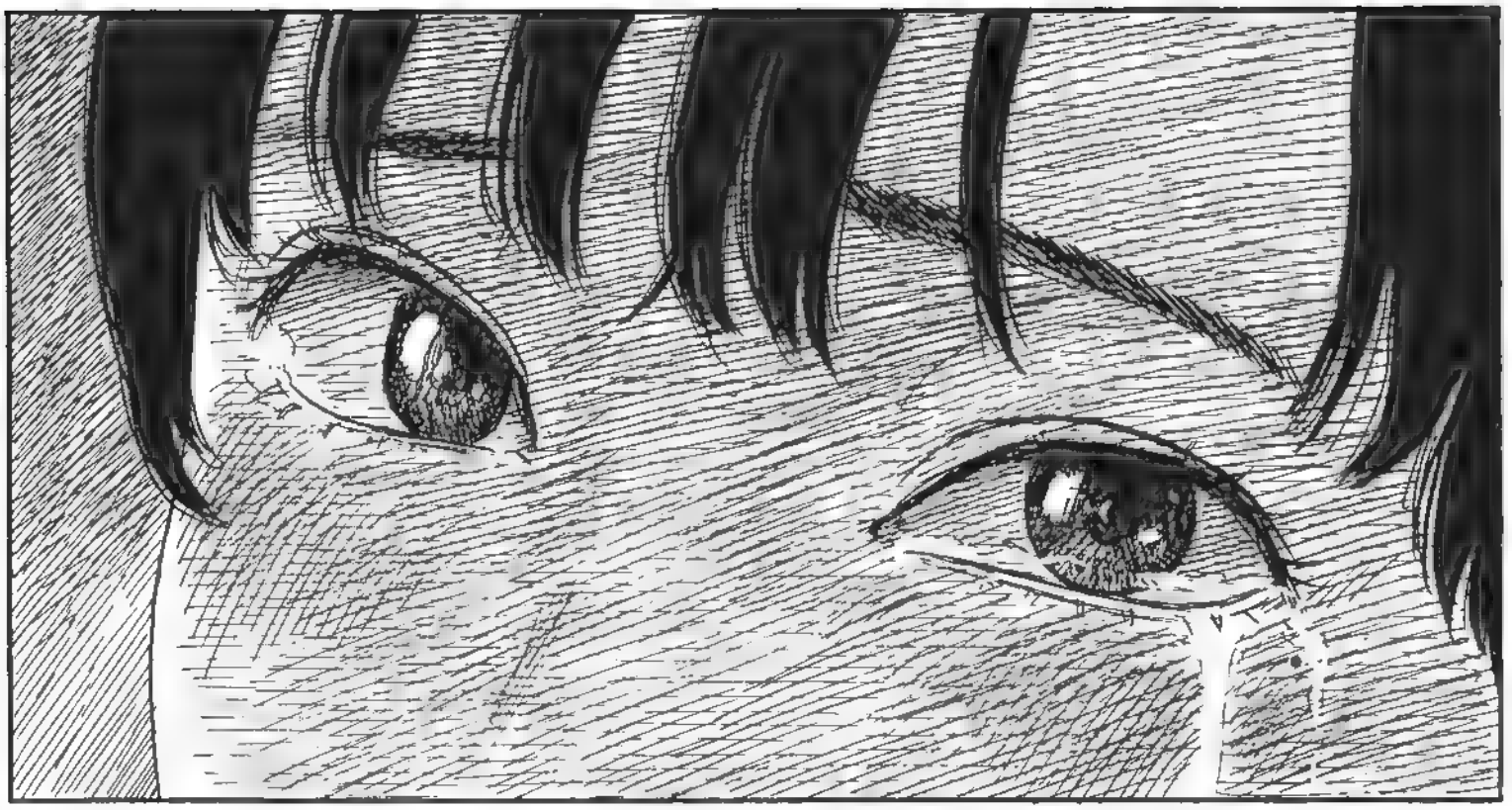
N–

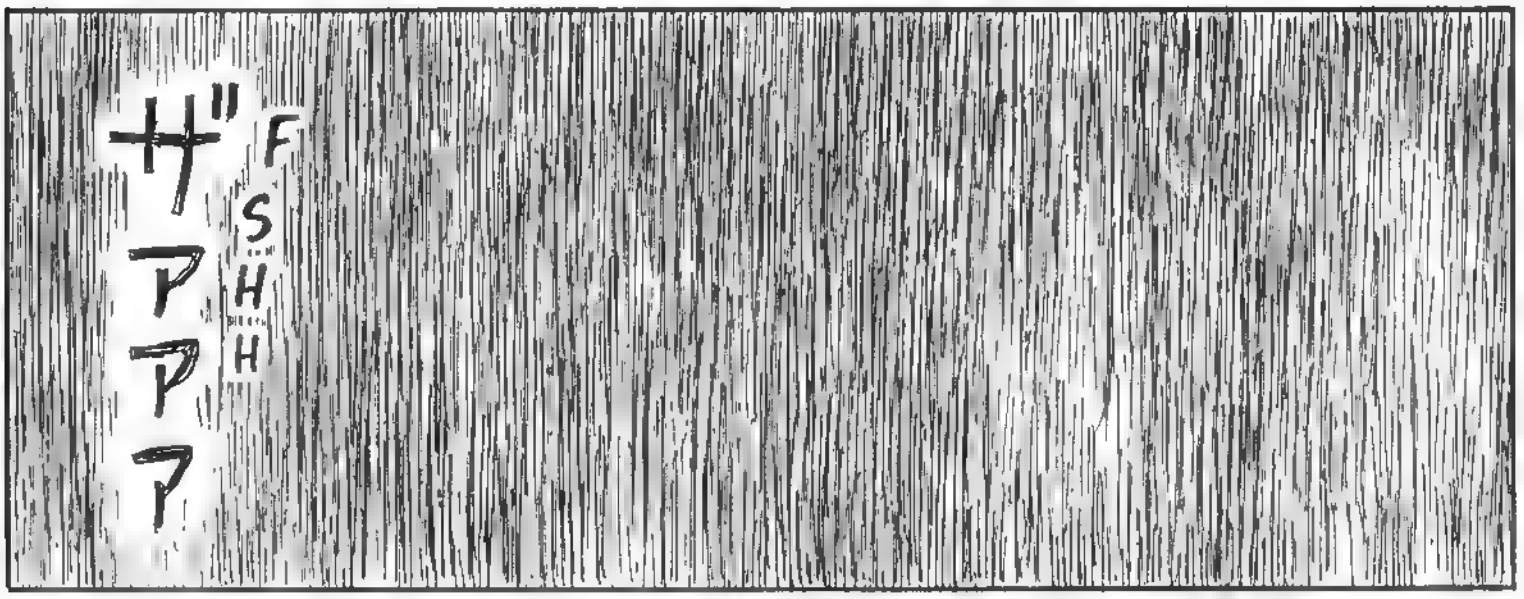
NO WAY...

ｻﾞｯ SHFF

...OSABE.

TAKE ME AWAY WITH YOU.
FAR AWAY...

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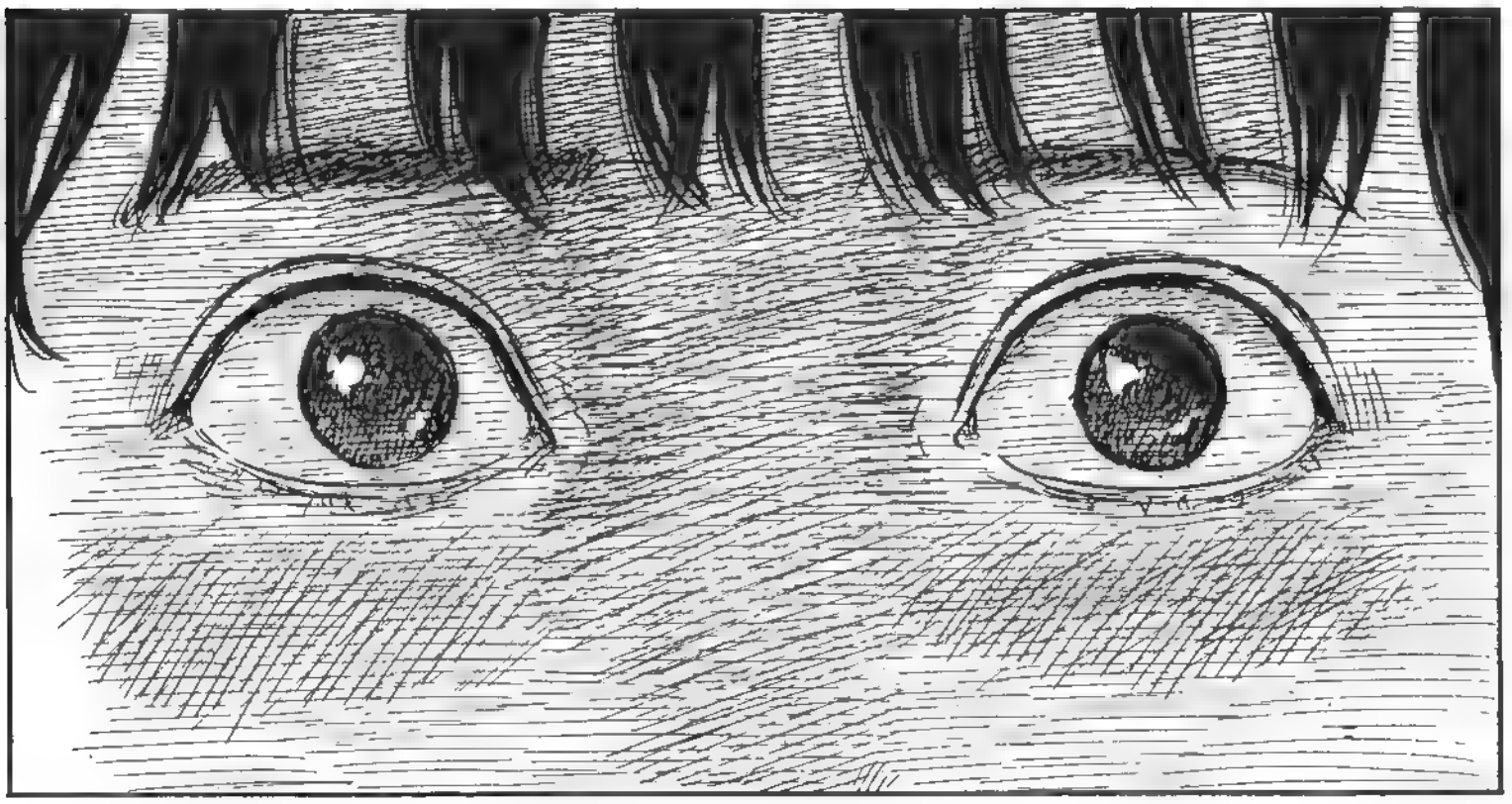
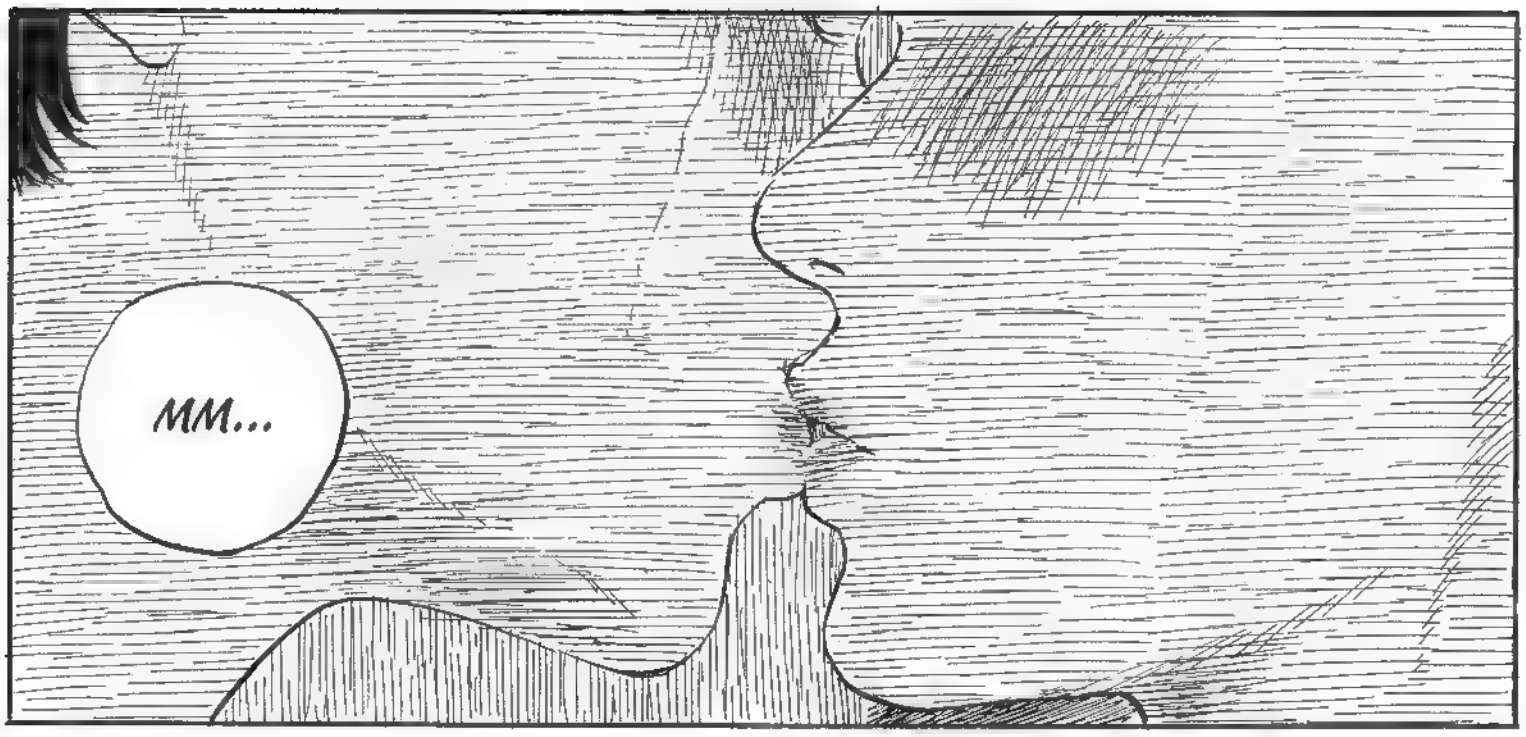
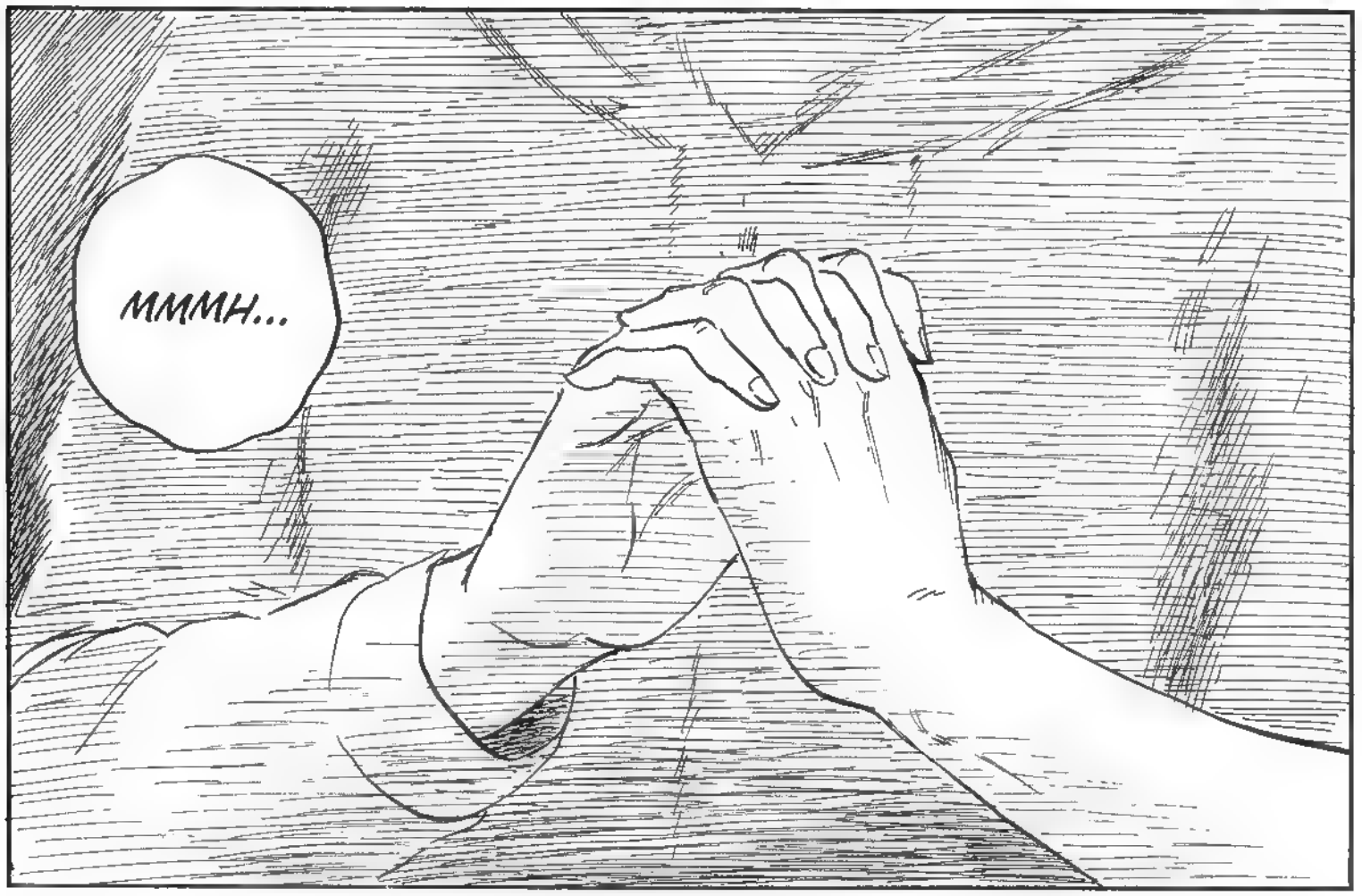
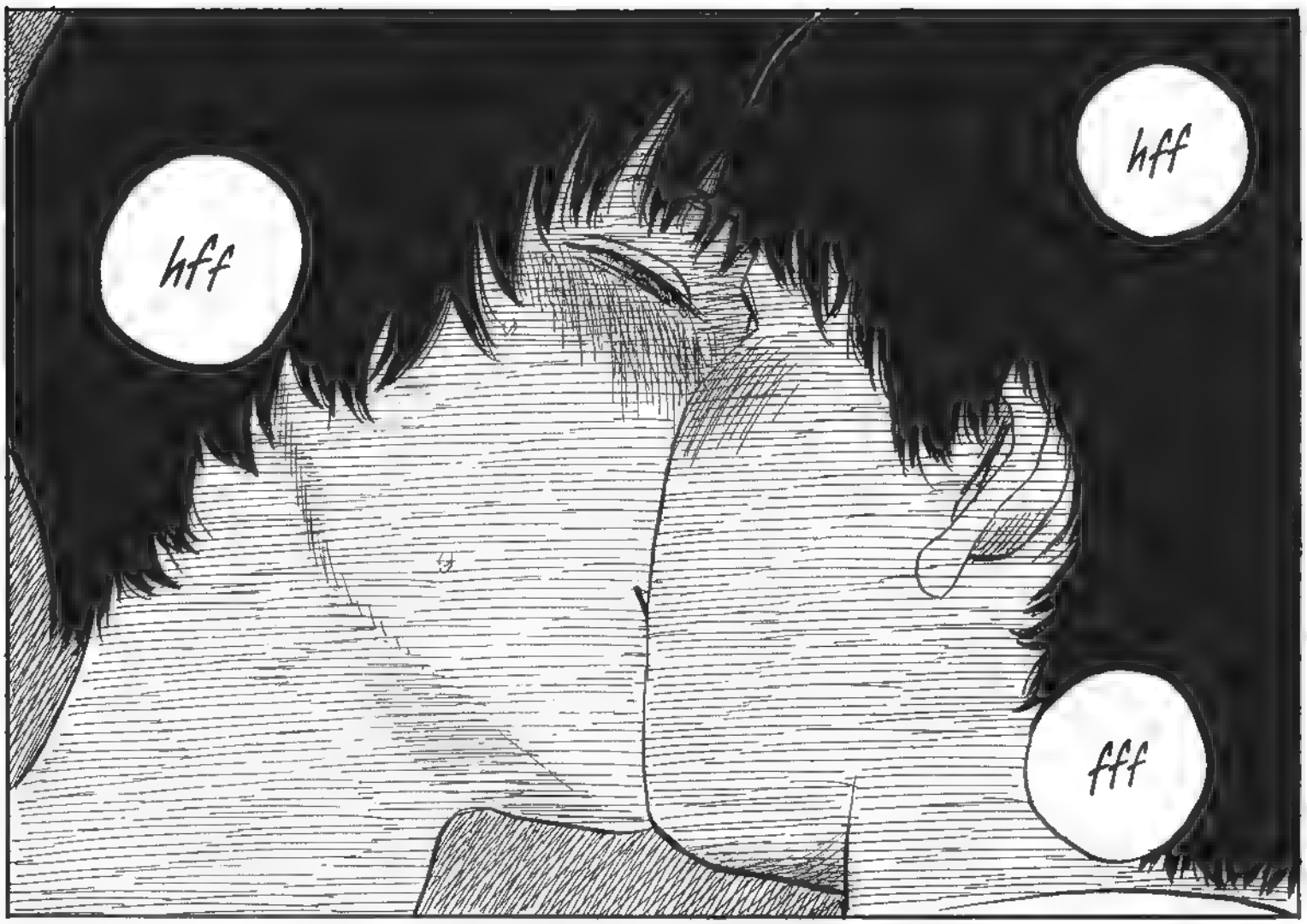
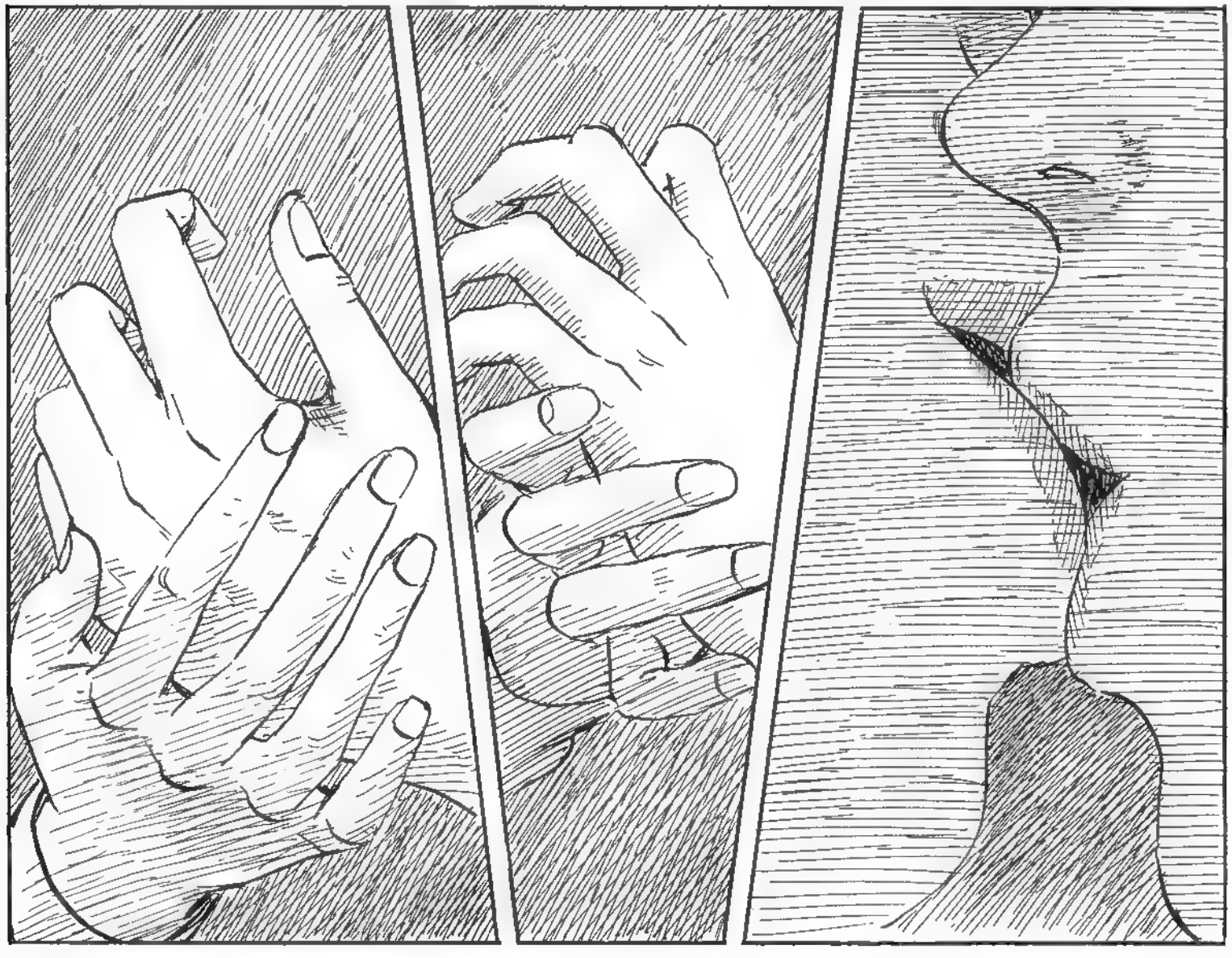
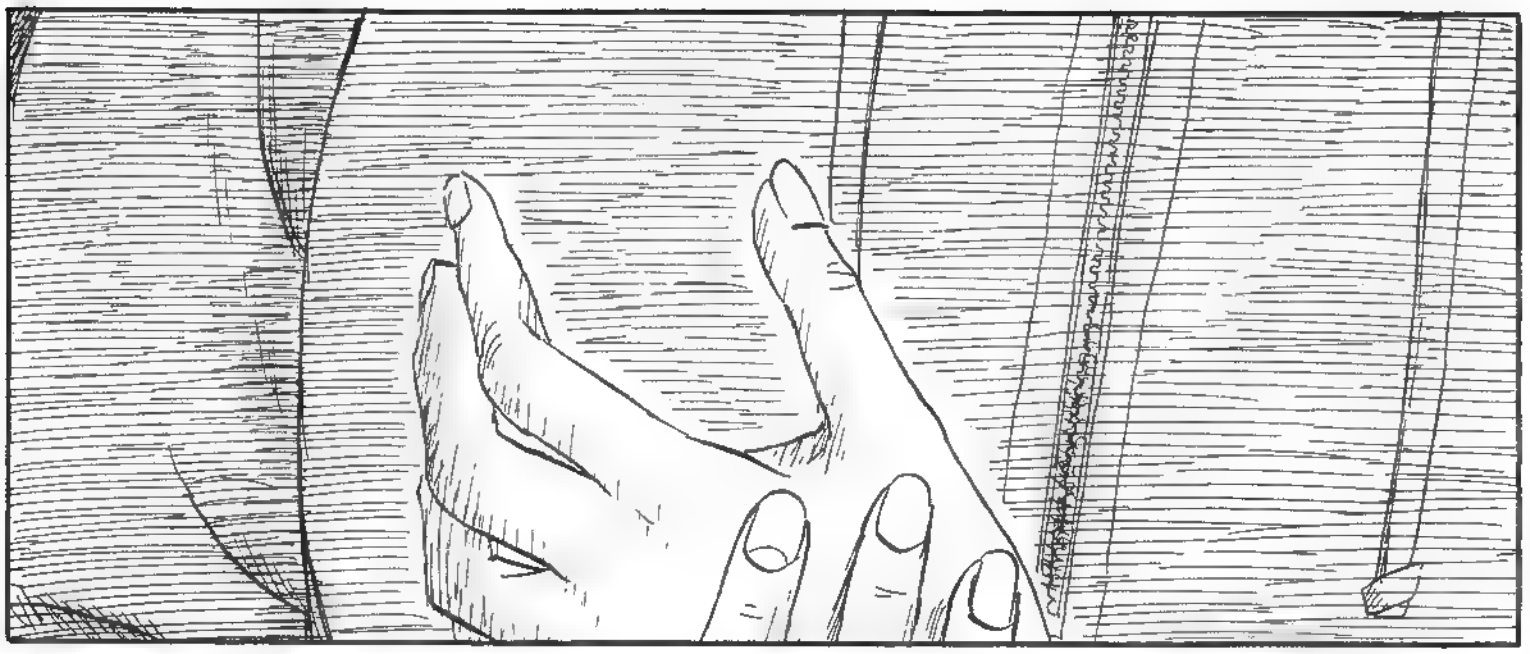



MM...

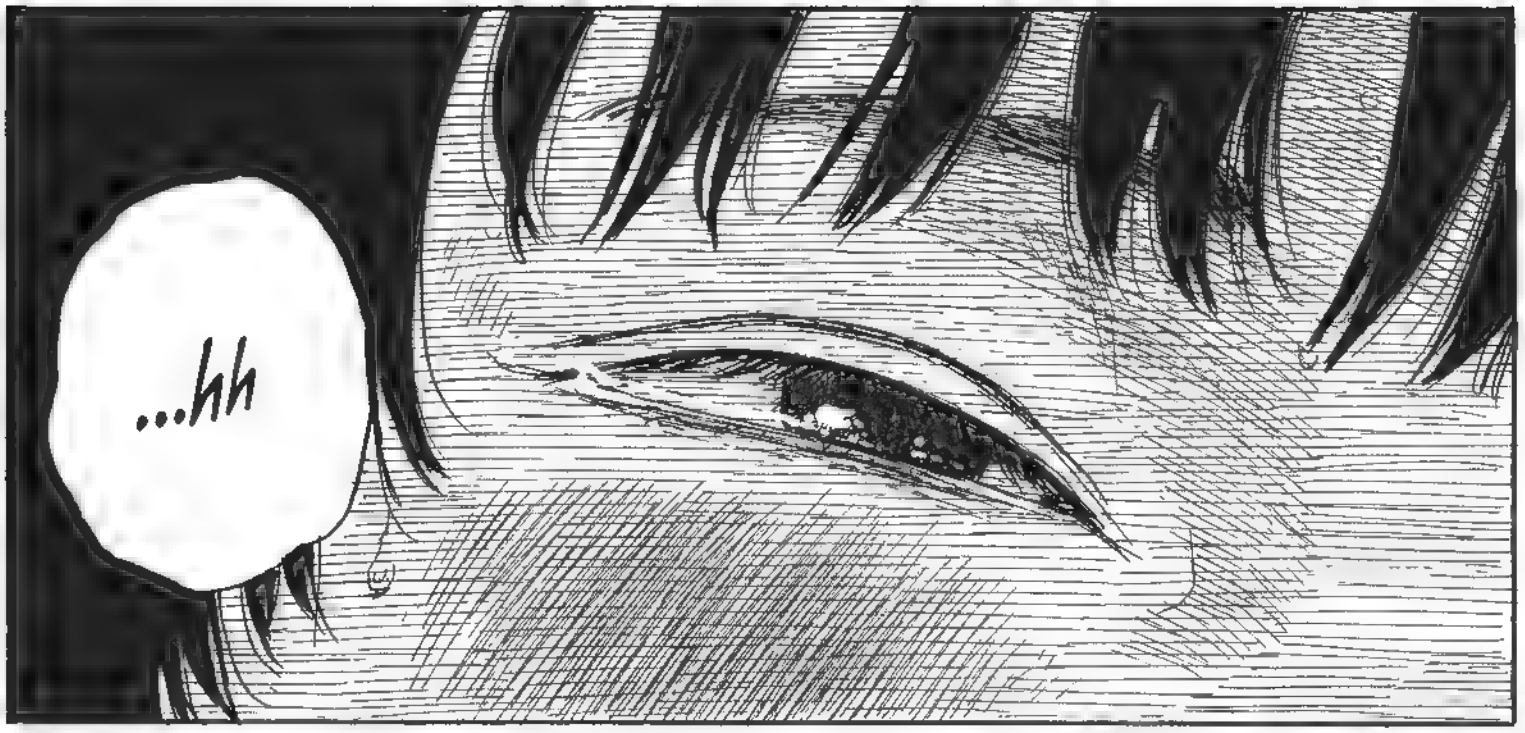

MMMH...


hff
hff
fff





SOFT
ふにゃ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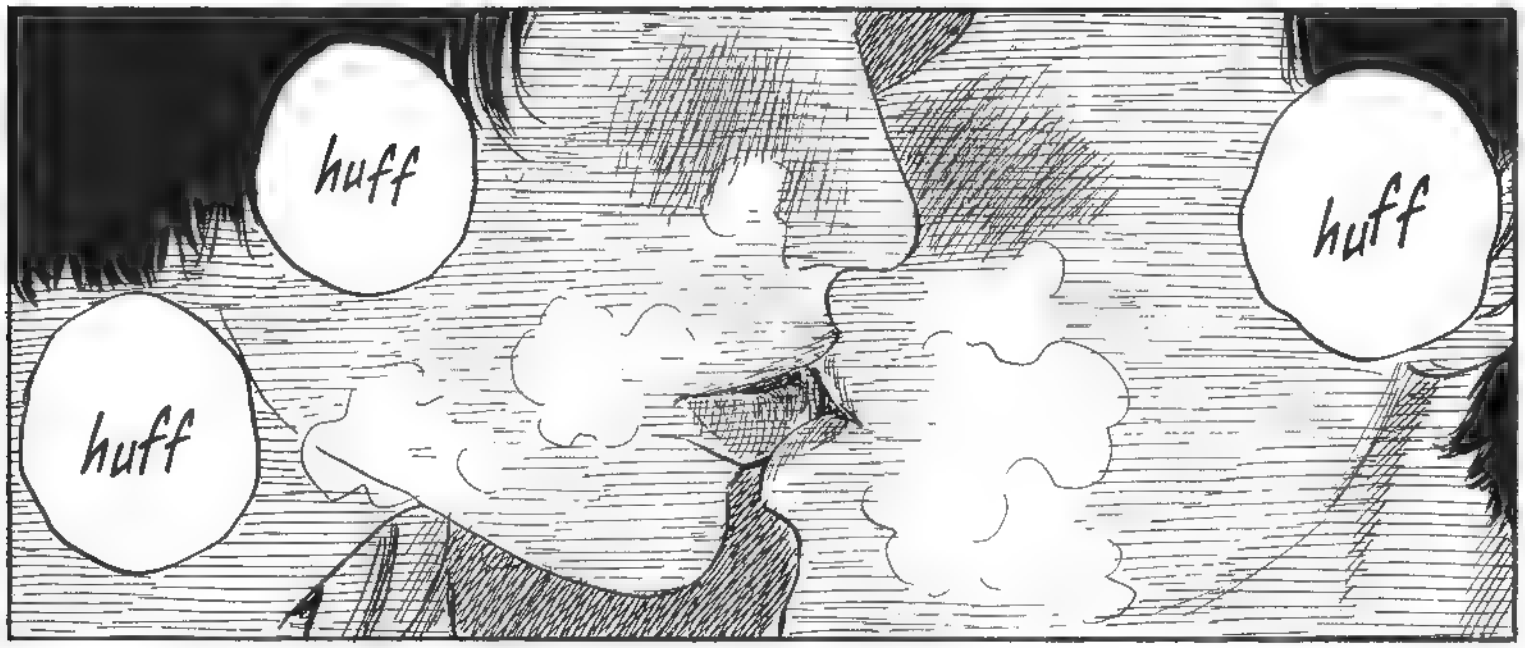
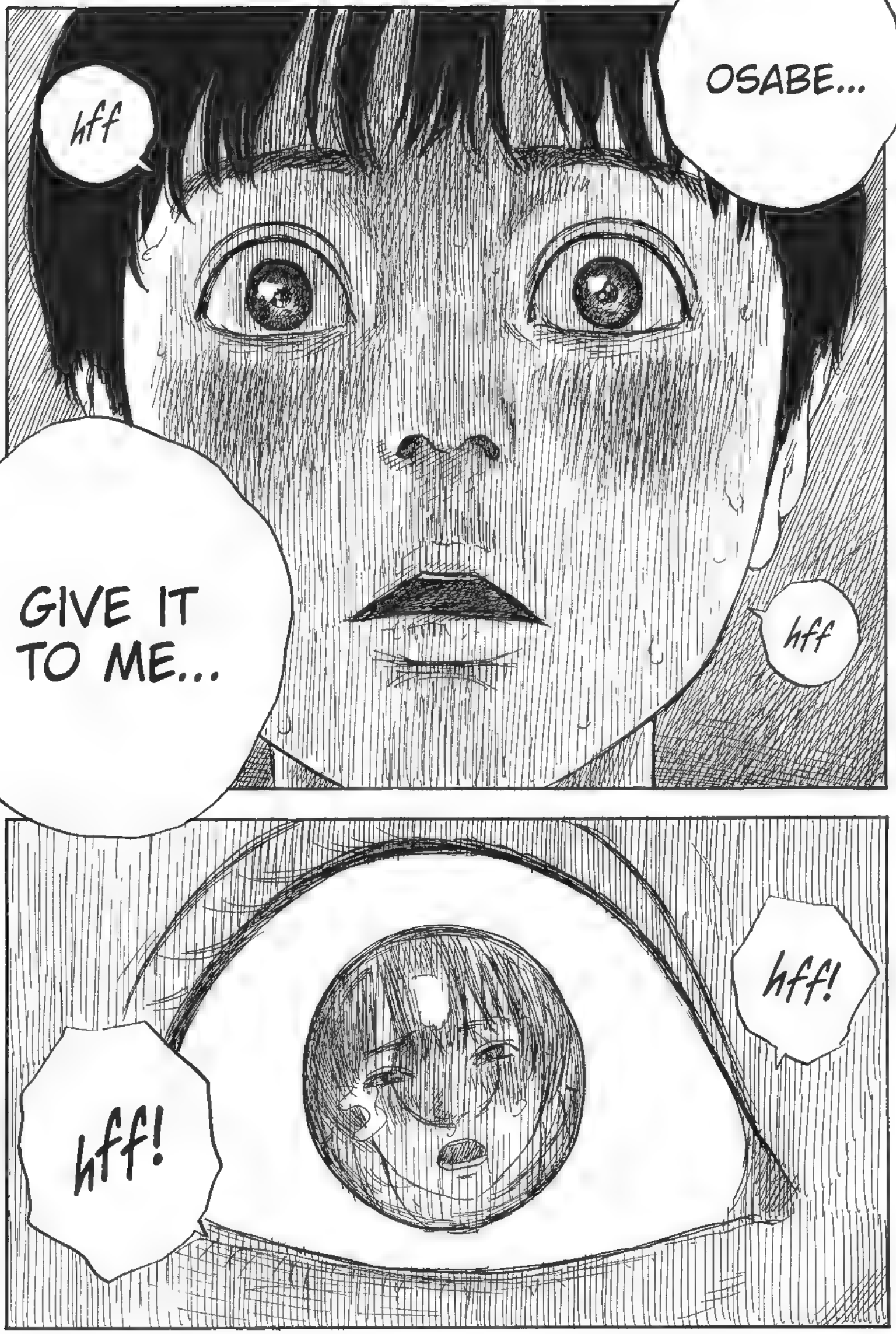

huff
huff
huff

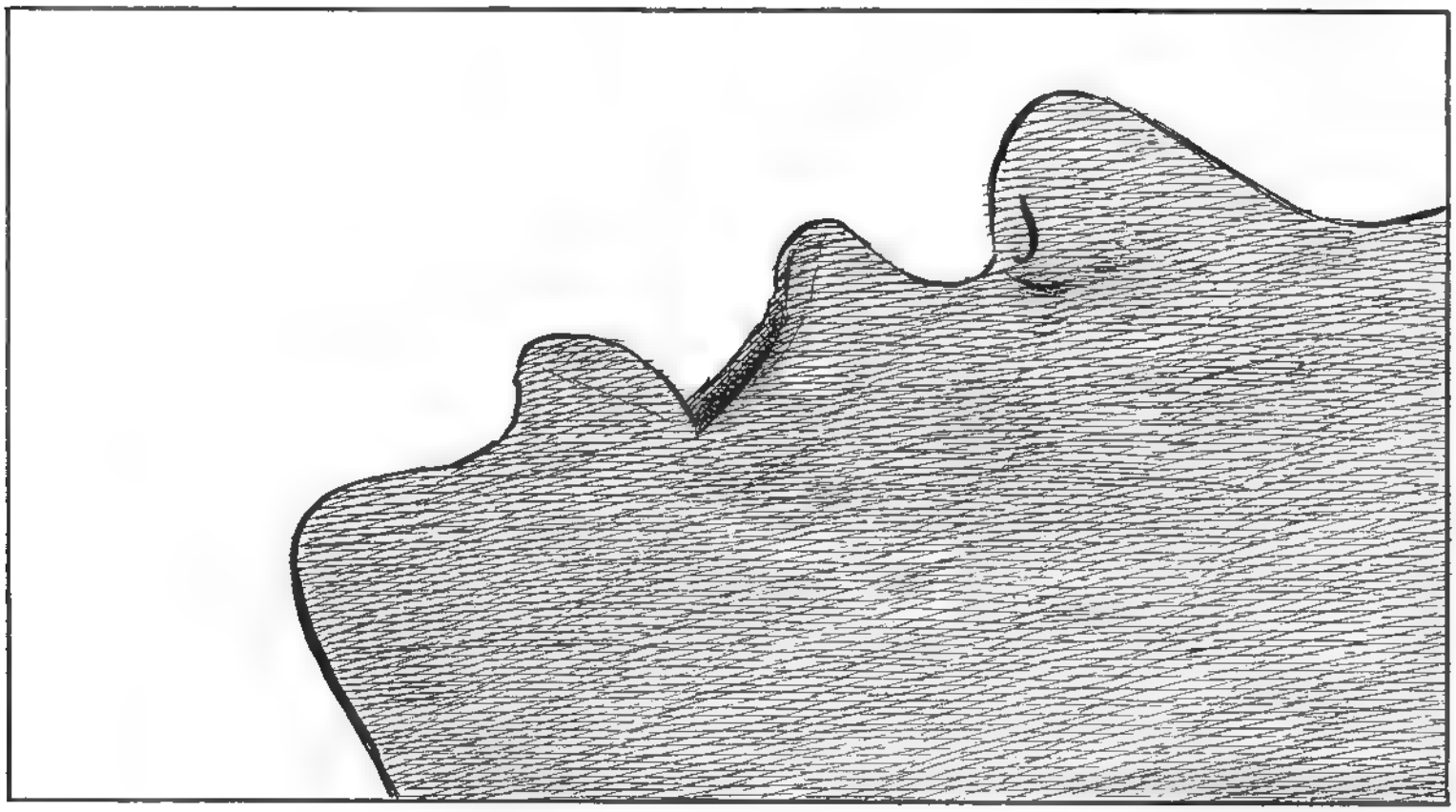
huff
SHM Z''
SHM Z''
huff

hff

hff

hff


hff
OSABE...
GIVE IT TO ME...
hff
hff!
hff!

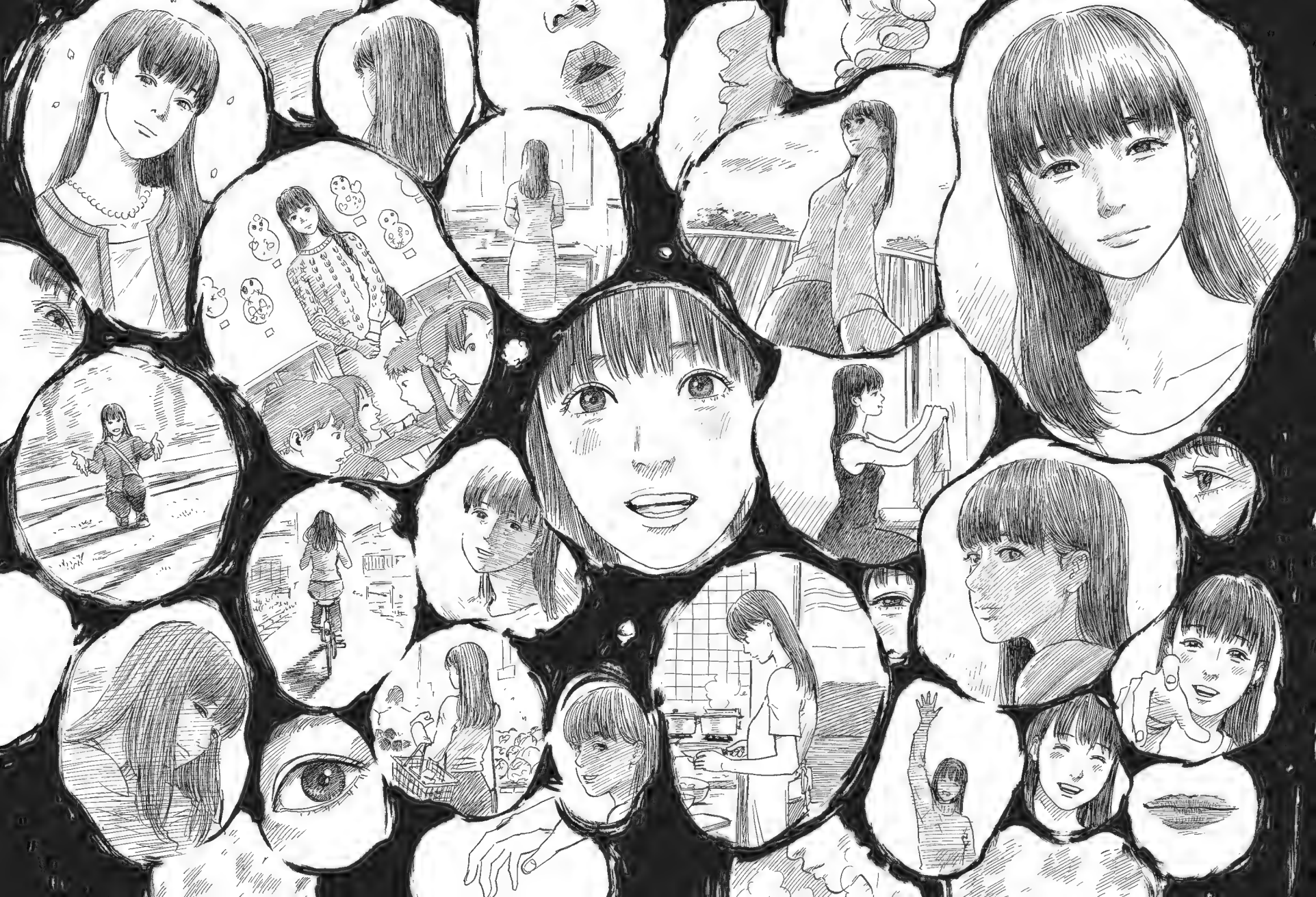


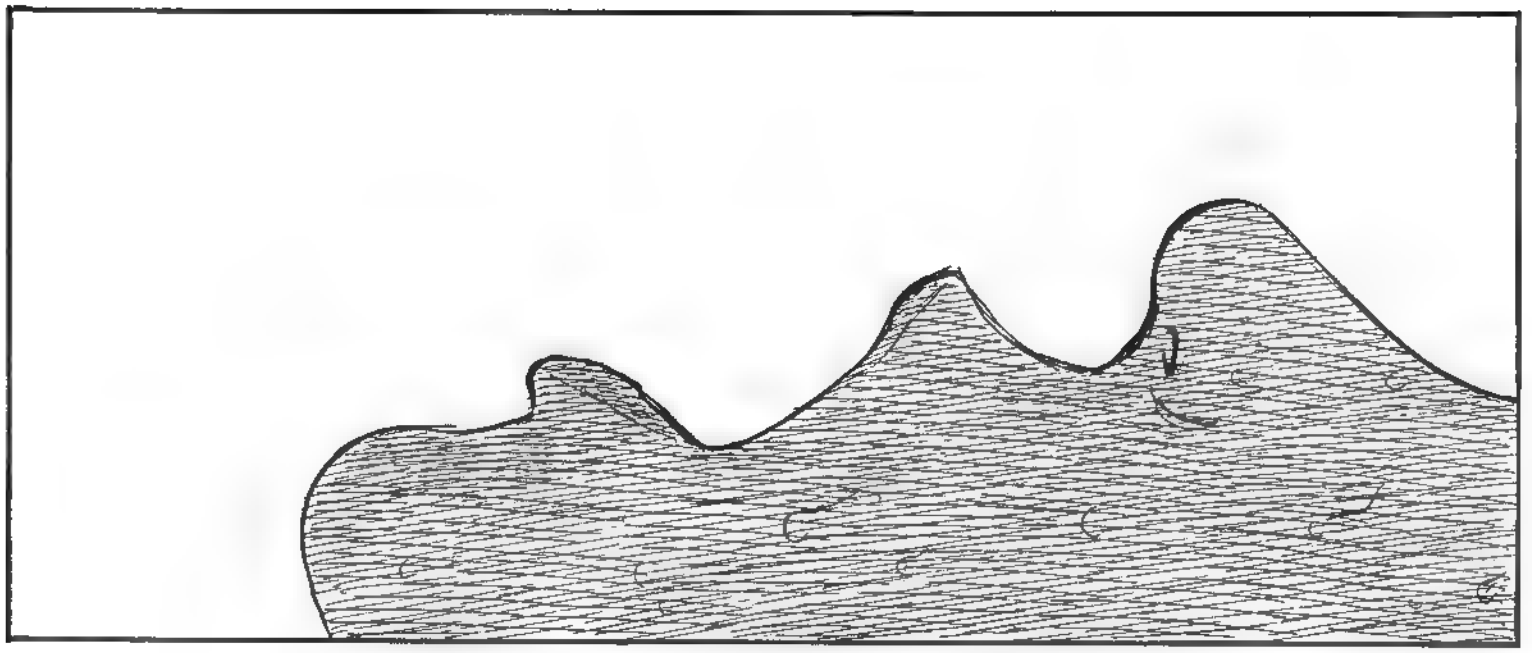
huh

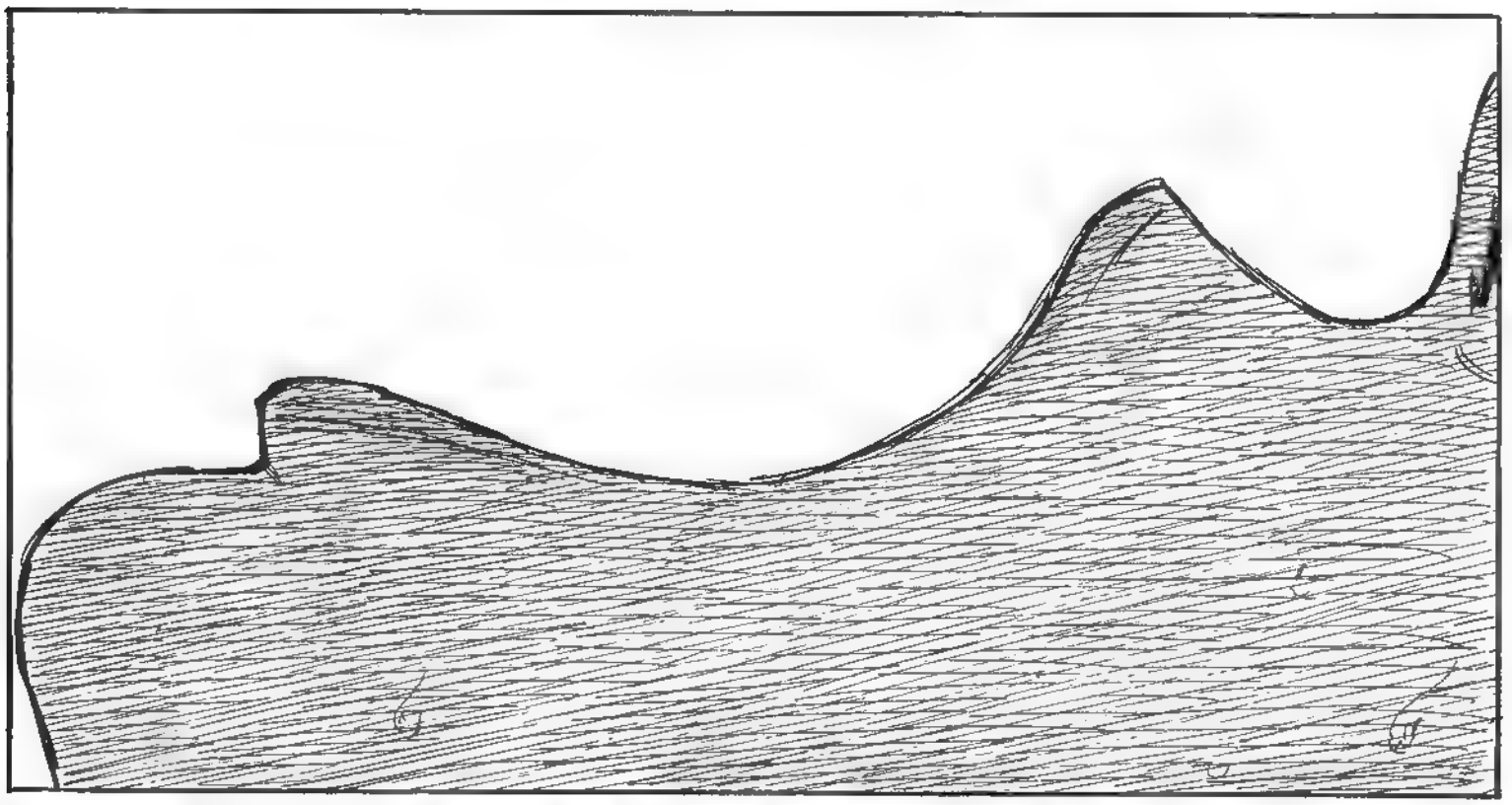
huff

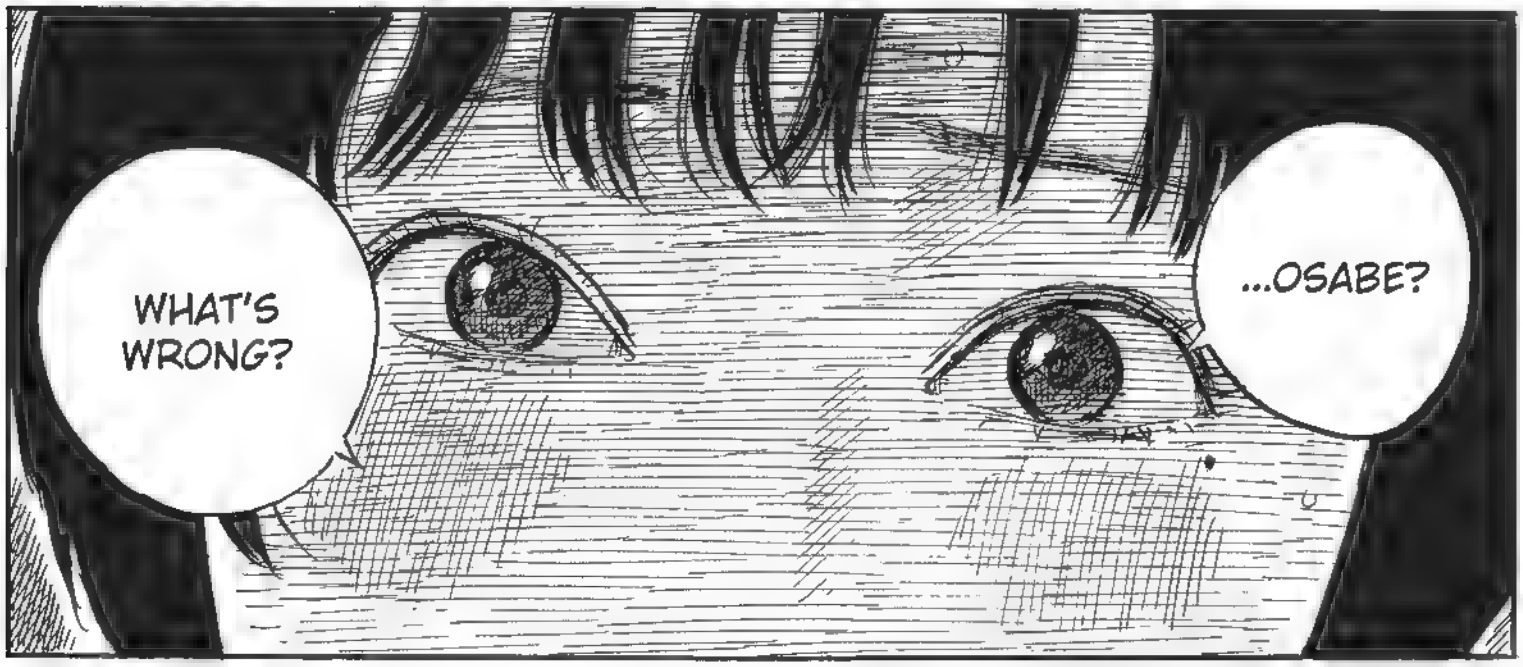
huh

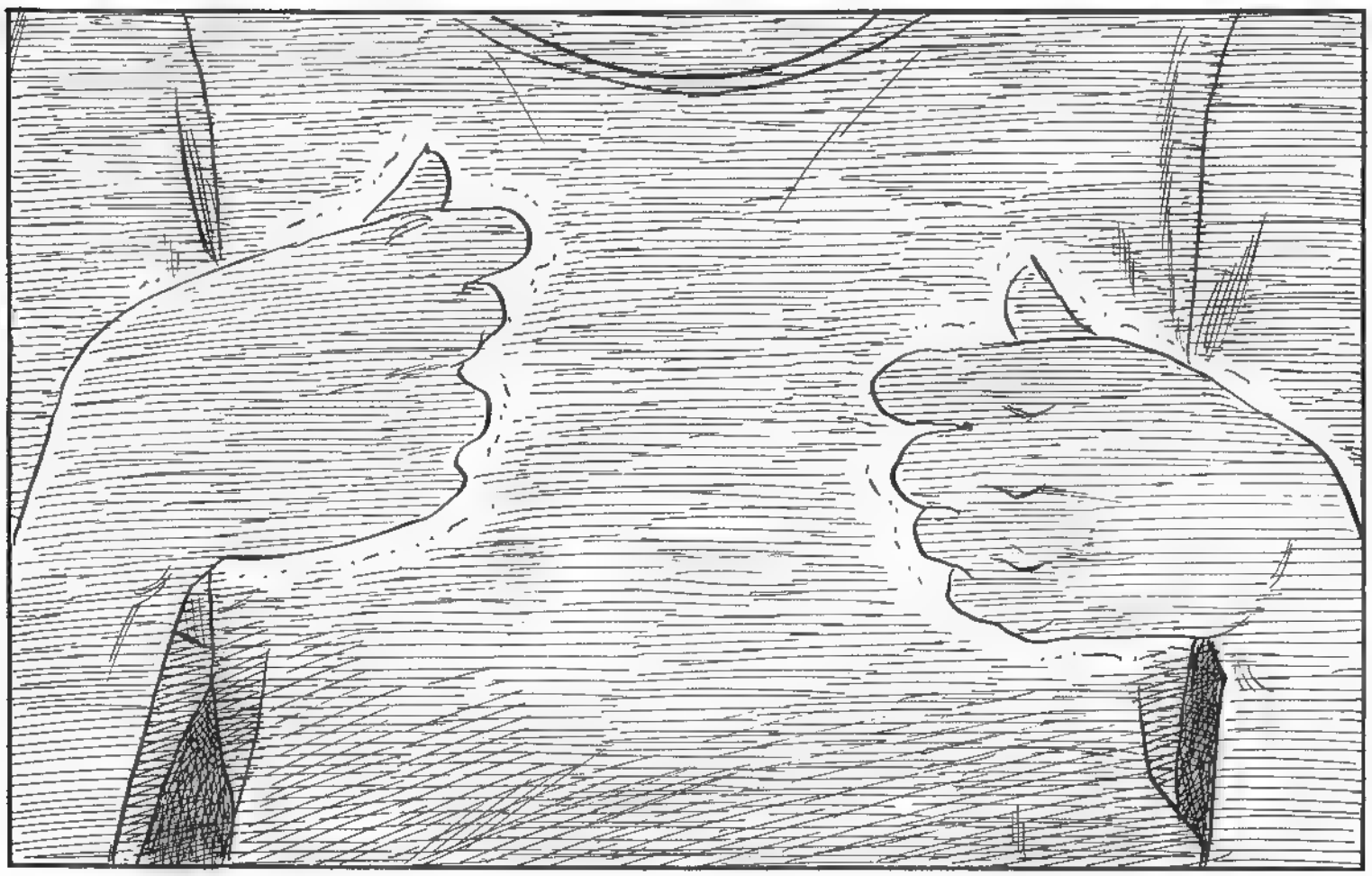
HURRY...

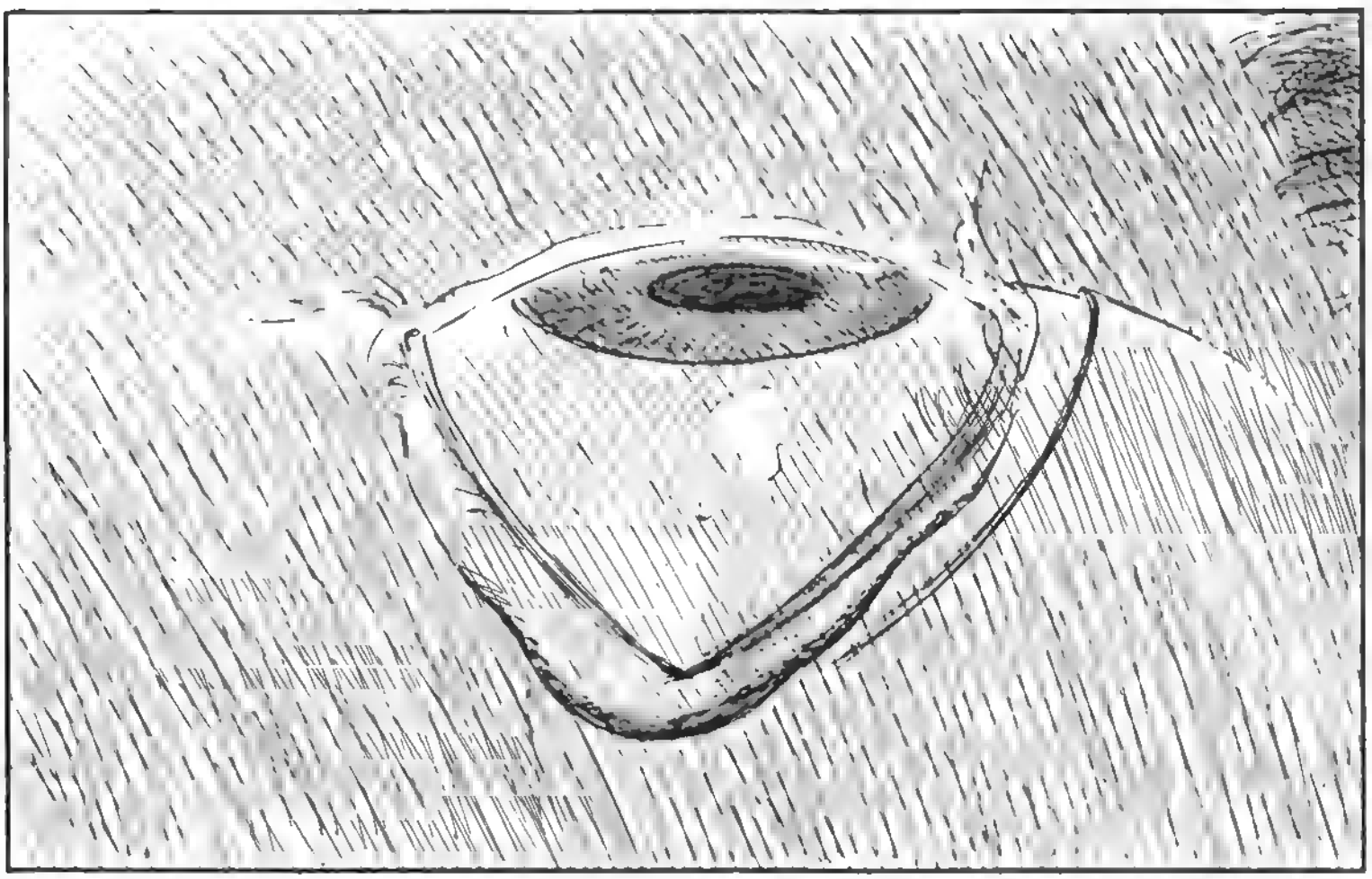




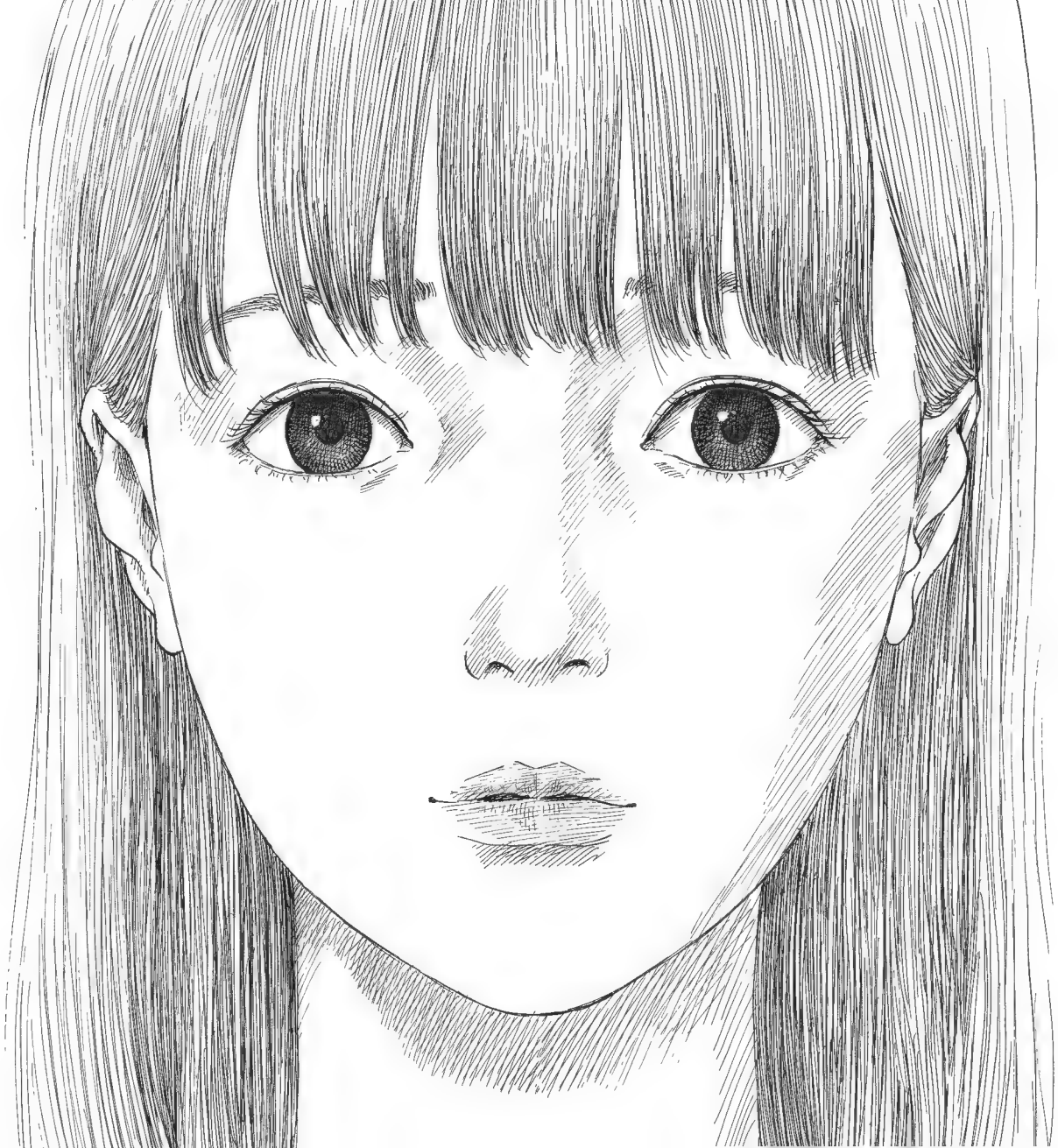


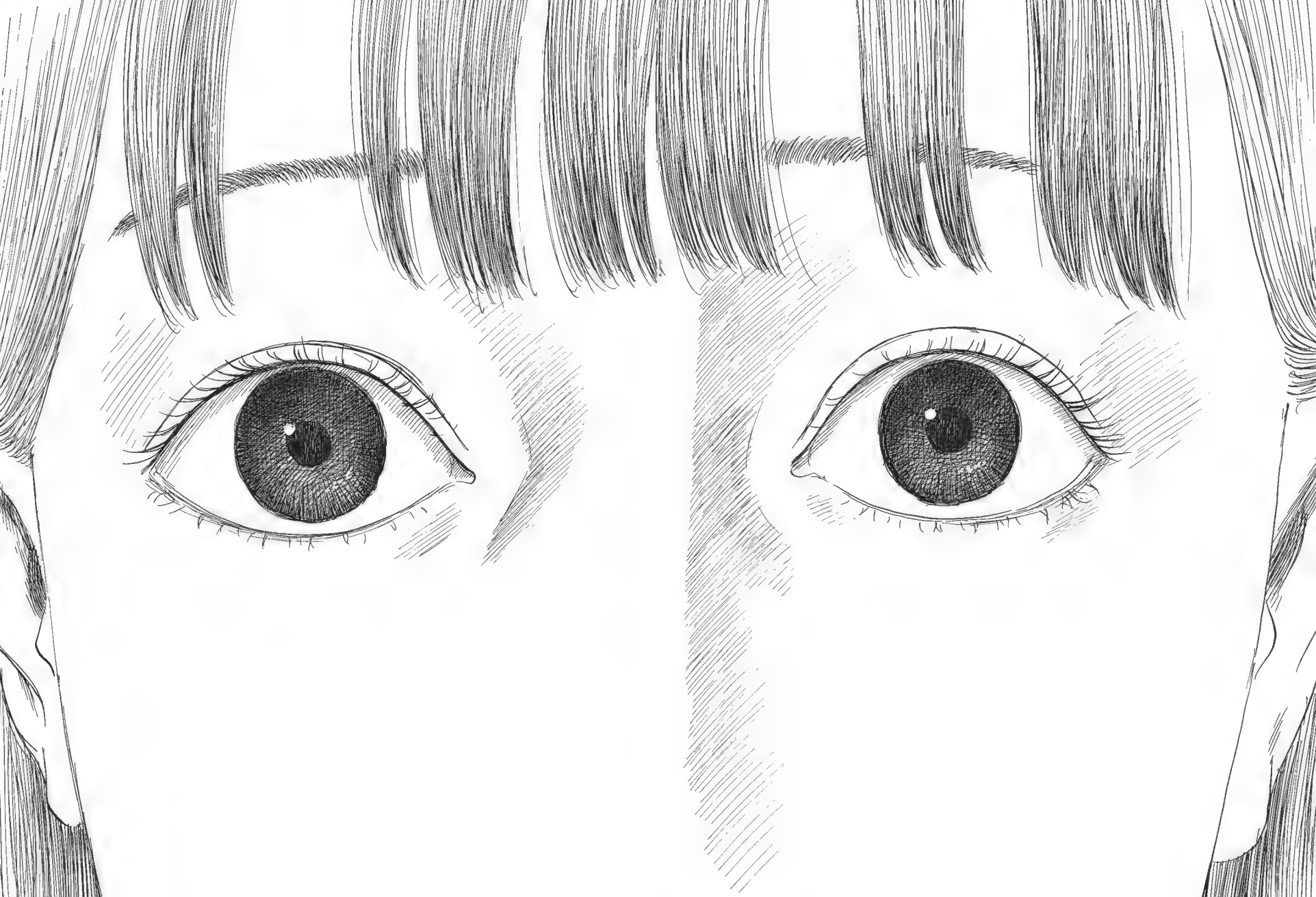

WHAT'S WRONG?
...OSABE?

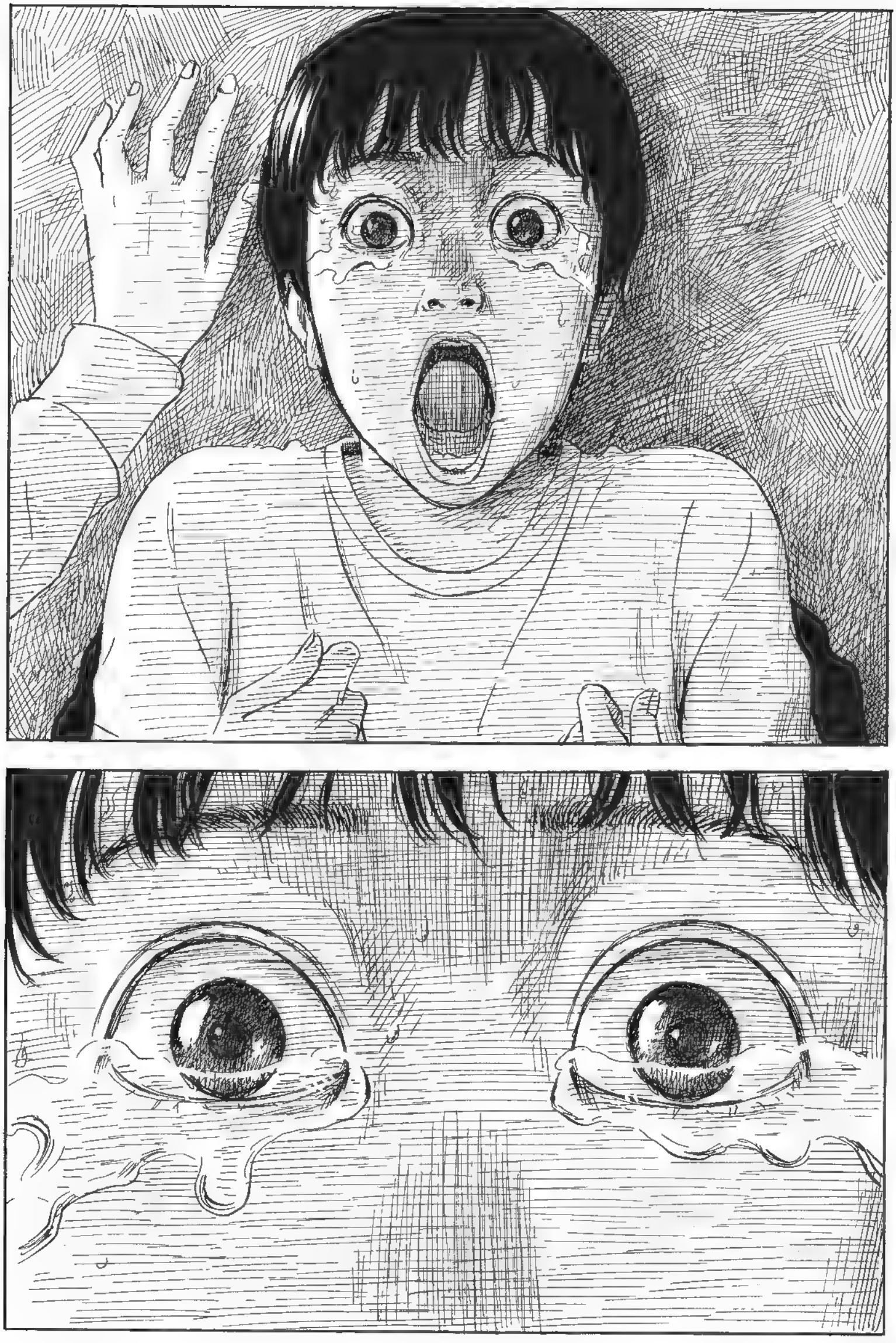




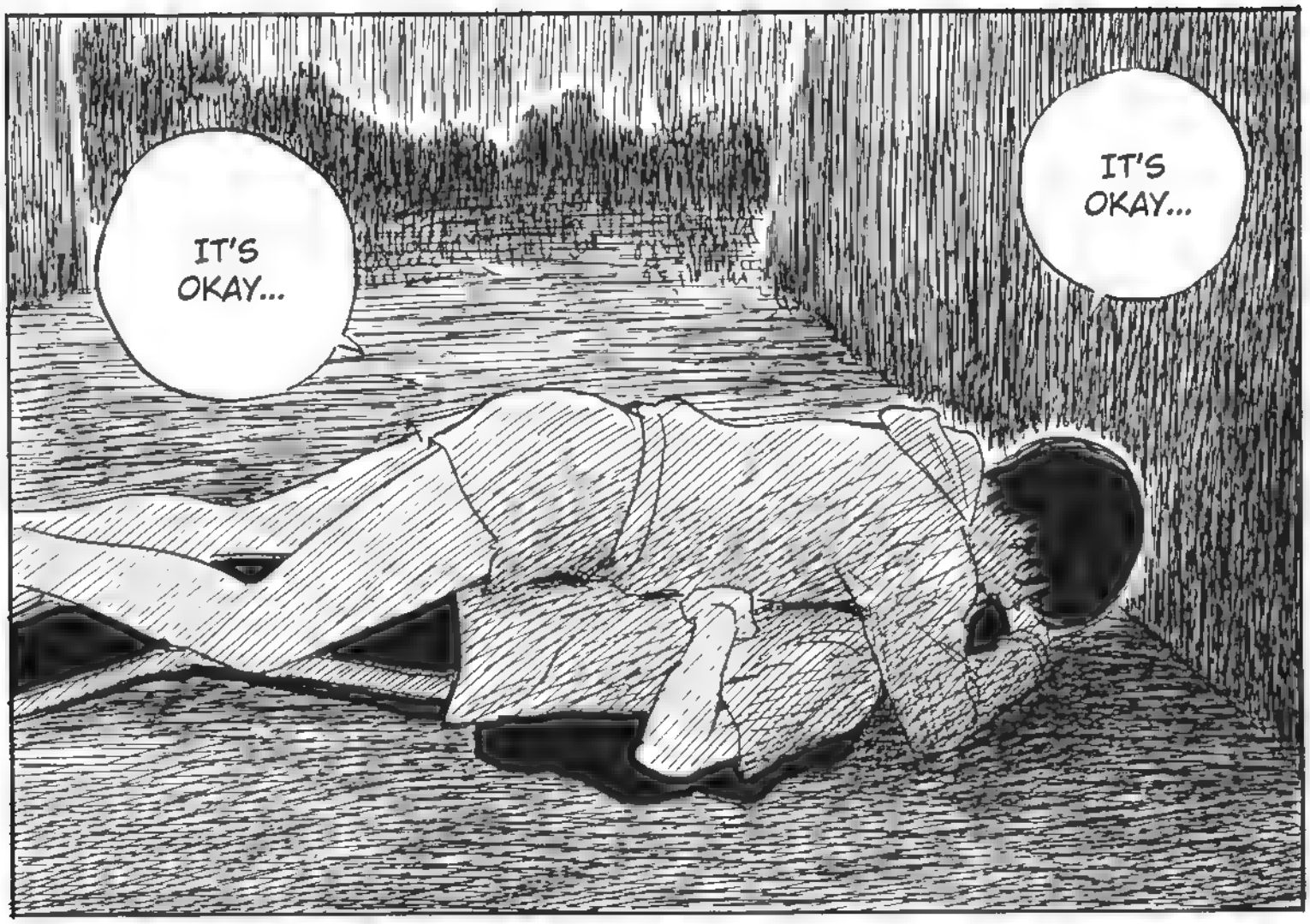
OSABE...?





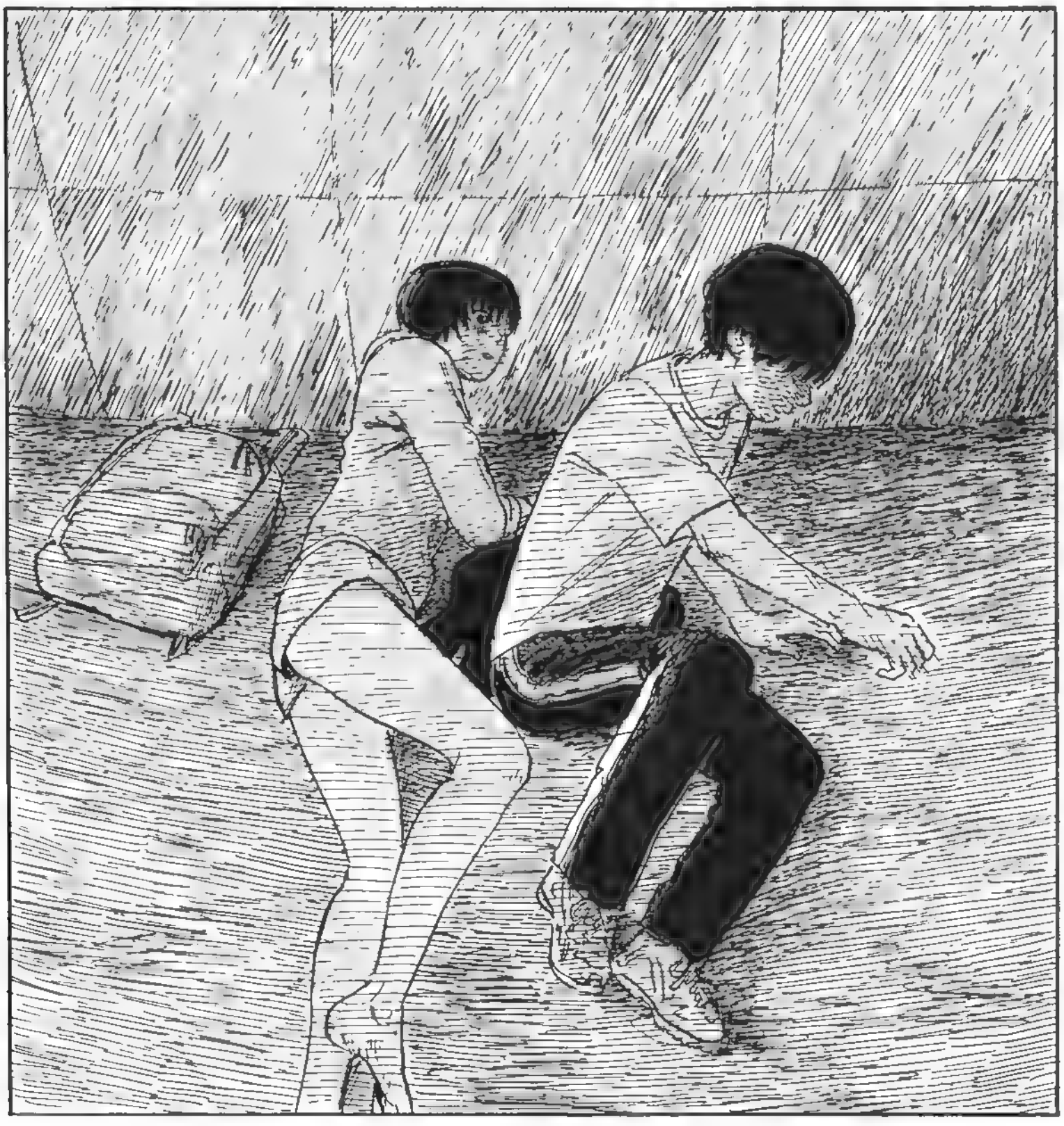


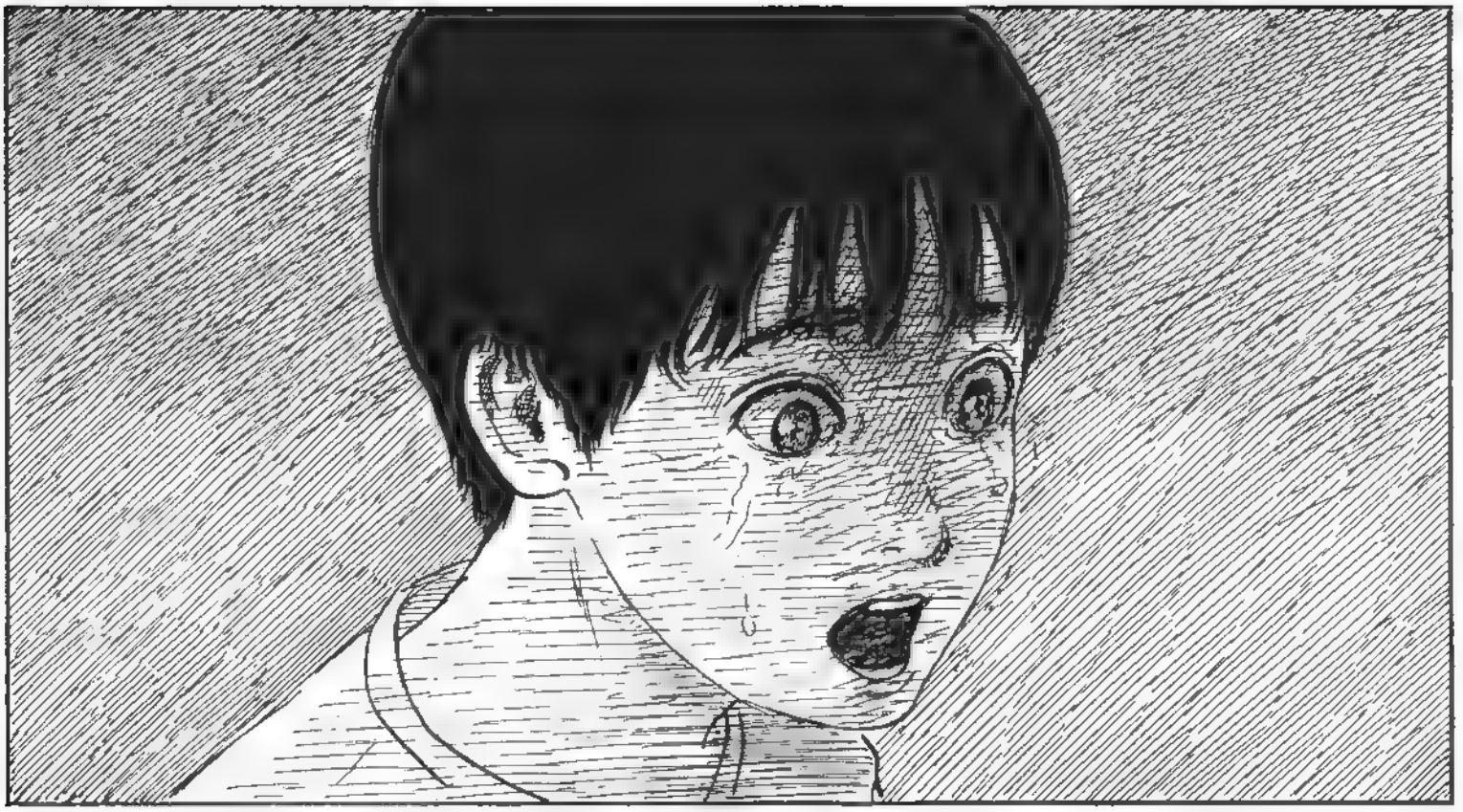
OSABE...

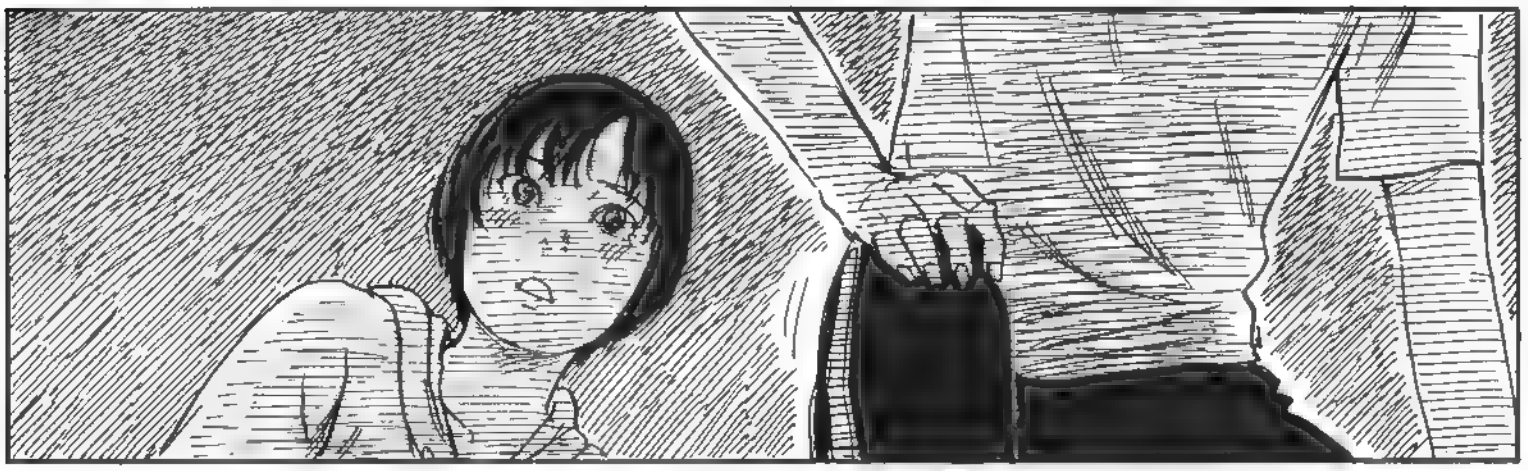

IT'S OKAY...
IT'S OKAY...

OSABE...

YANK!







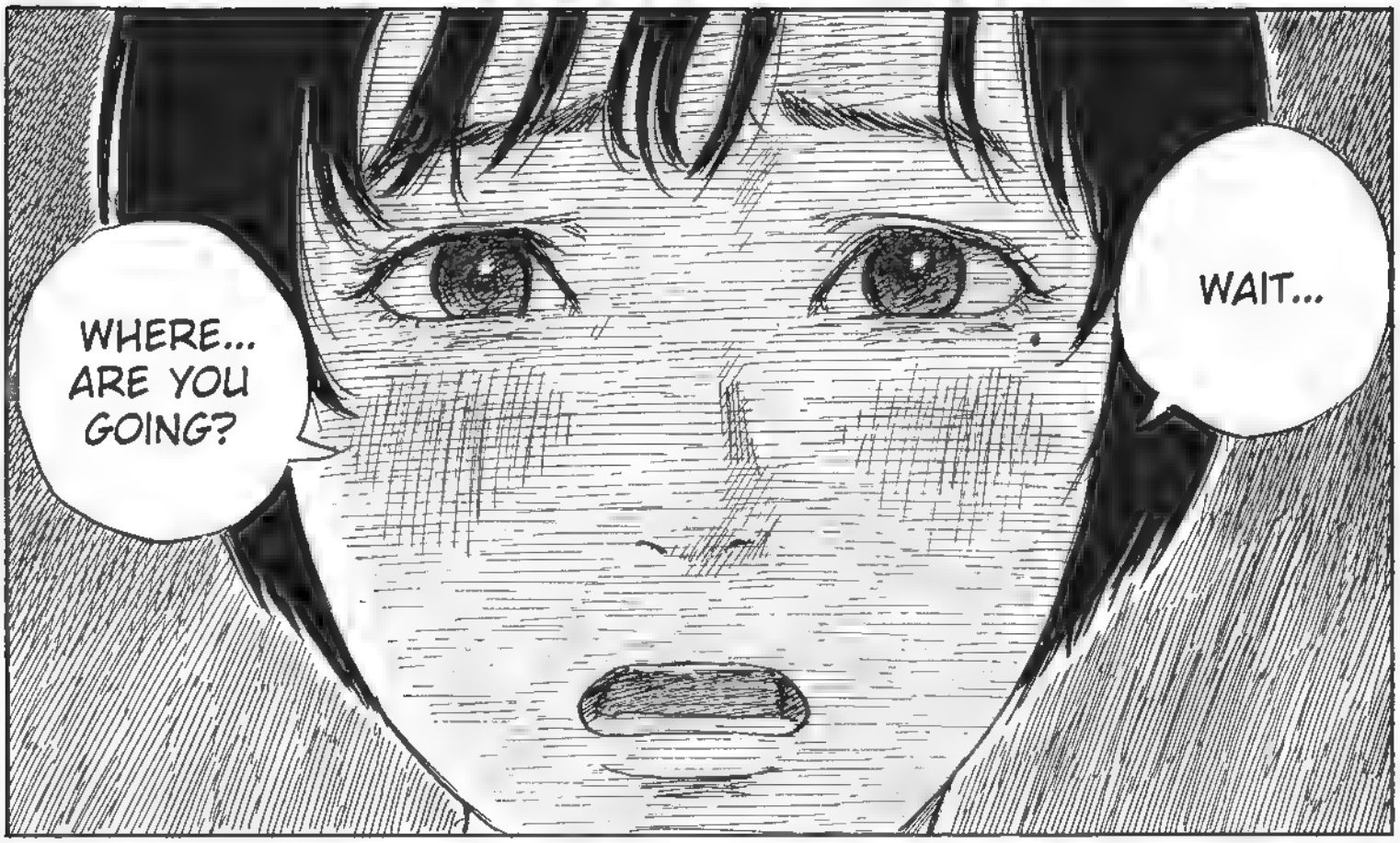
GO HOME...

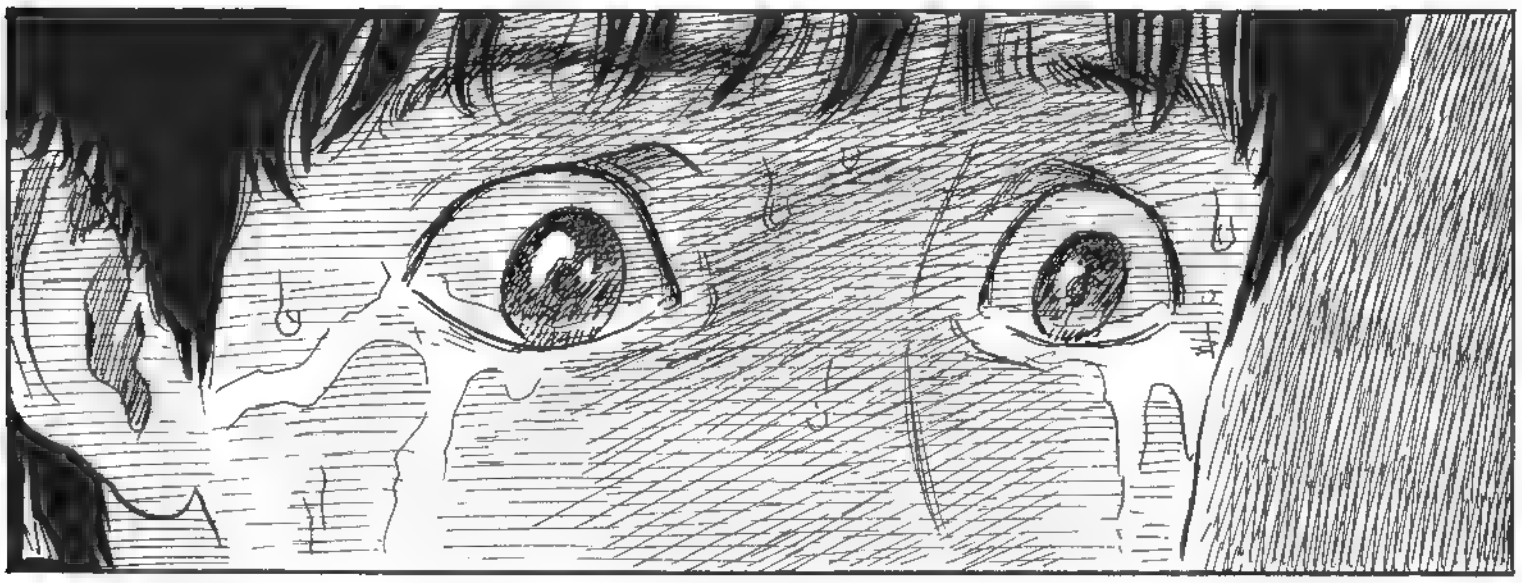
PUT... PUT... THEM ON...

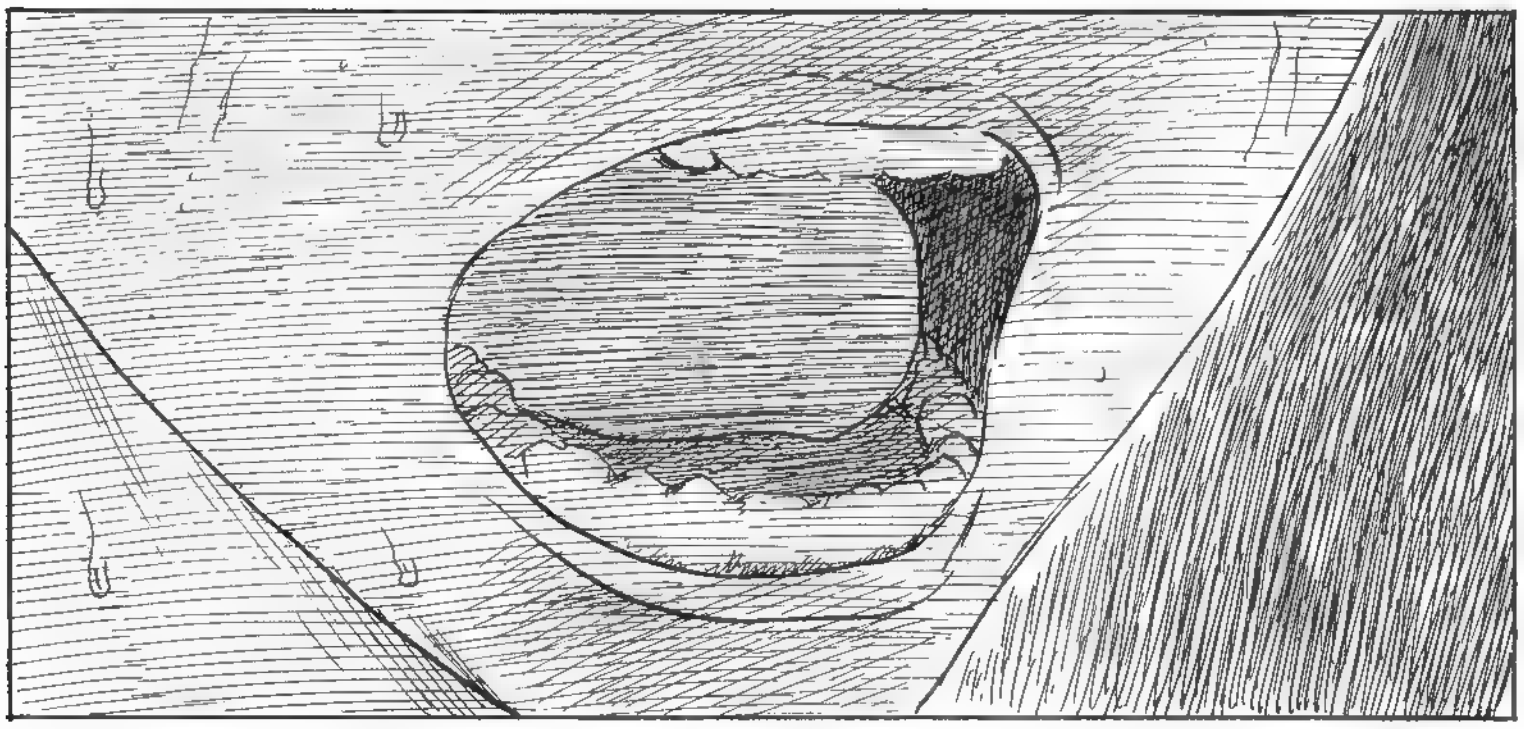
T-TAKE THESE...

.....

OSABE!


WHERE... ARE YOU GOING?
WAIT...





SORRY...

I...
CAN'T DO
THIS...

CAN'T... DO WHAT? HOW COME?

...HUH?...

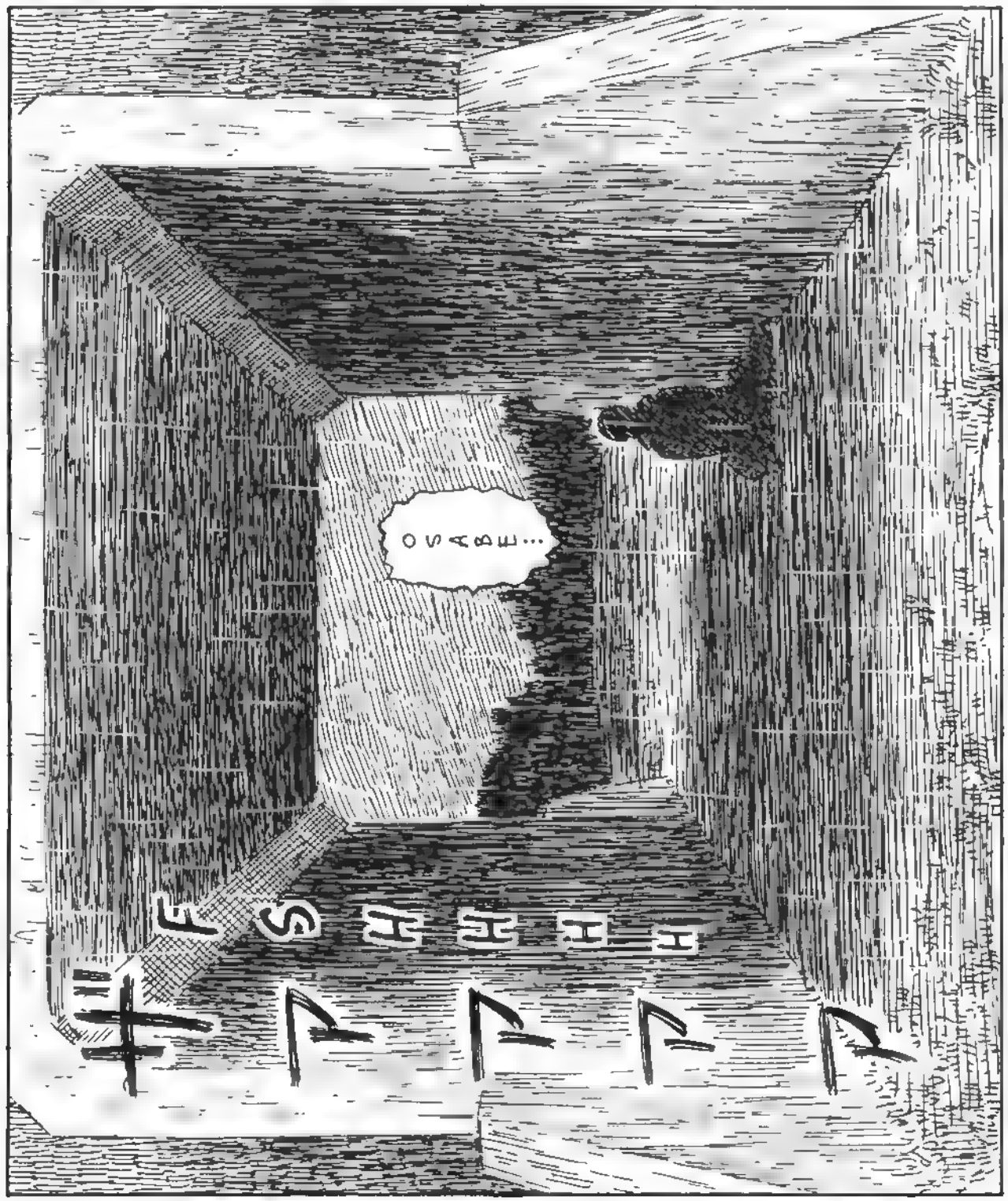
I THOUGHT ...

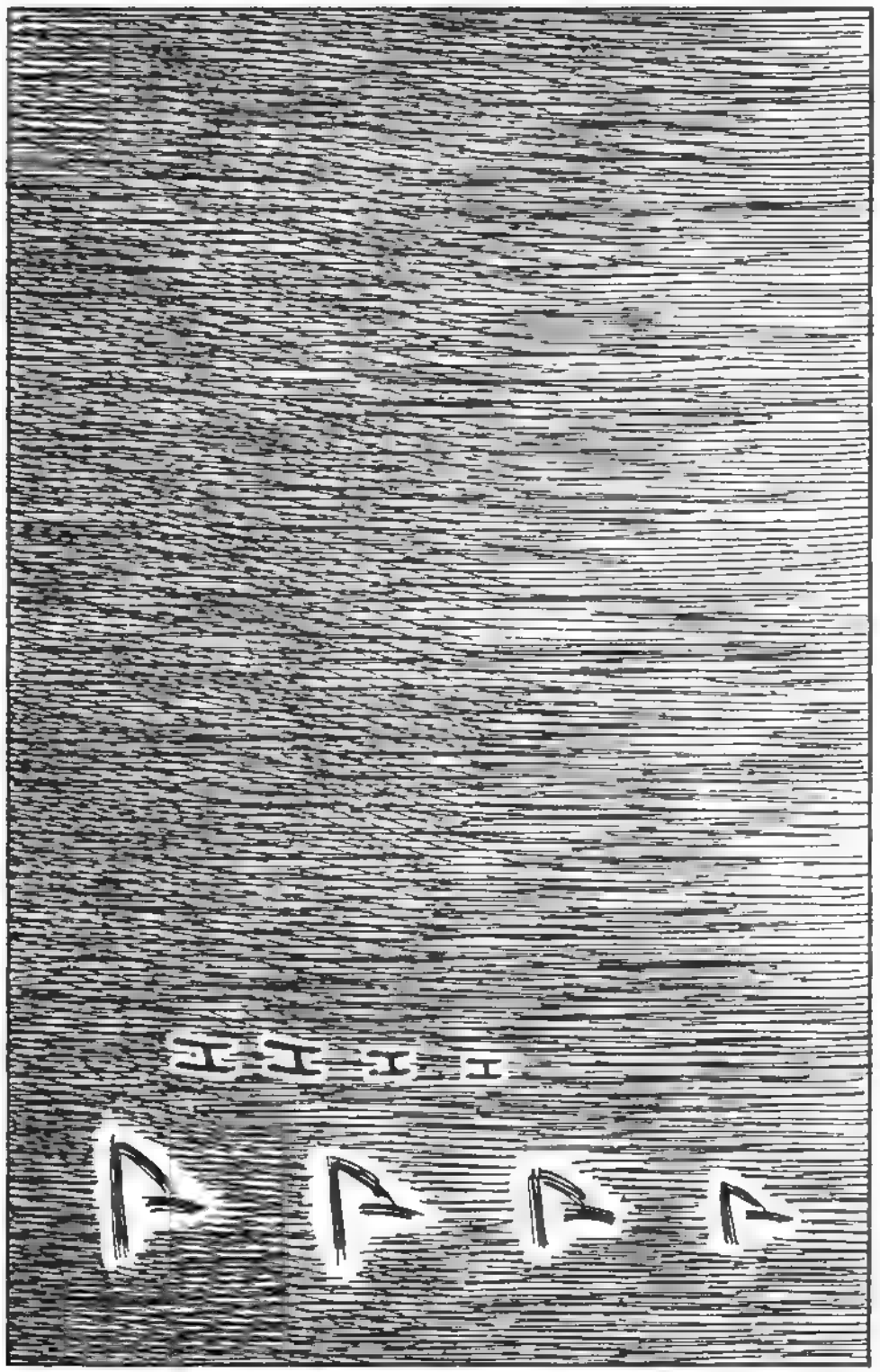
WE WERE GONNA RUN AWAY...

I MEAN... YOU...

WHY?

...WHY?


OSABE...
SHHHH
FFFFF


HHHH
FFFF

Seiichi
Osabe

Class
2-1

My Mother

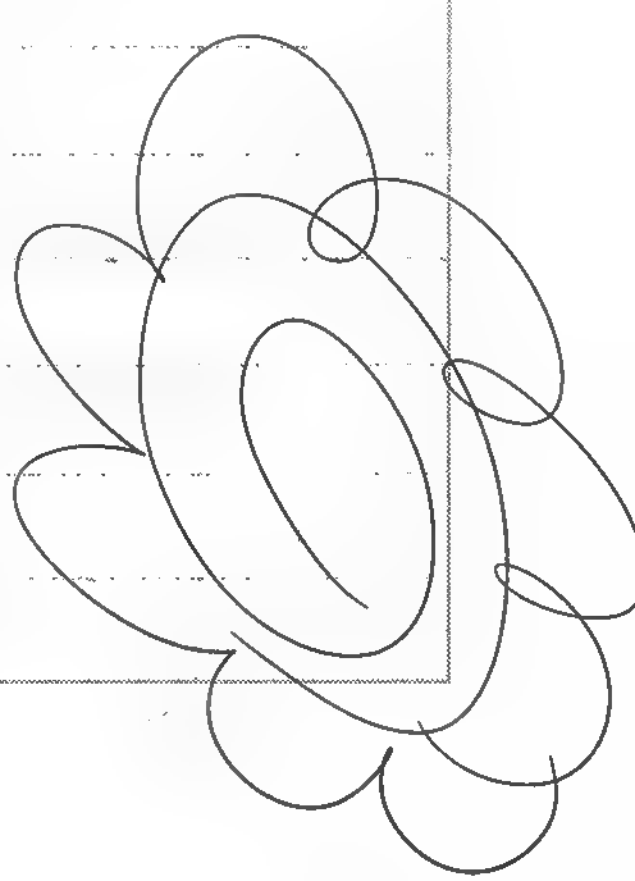
My mother touches me a lot.

When I yawn, she sticks her finger sideways into my mouth. When I close my mouth on it without realizing, she laughs, Tee hee hee.

Mother, thank you for everything.

Please keep thinking about me forever.

Excellent! Sounds like your mom really loves you, Seiichi.



Seiichi Osabe,
Class 2 -1

My Mother

My mother's name is Seiko.

The "Sei" in her name is the same as in mine.

My mother is always thinking about me.

When I have a fight with my friends or when I feel sad, my mother always notices and asks me, "What's wrong." And she always understands how I feel.

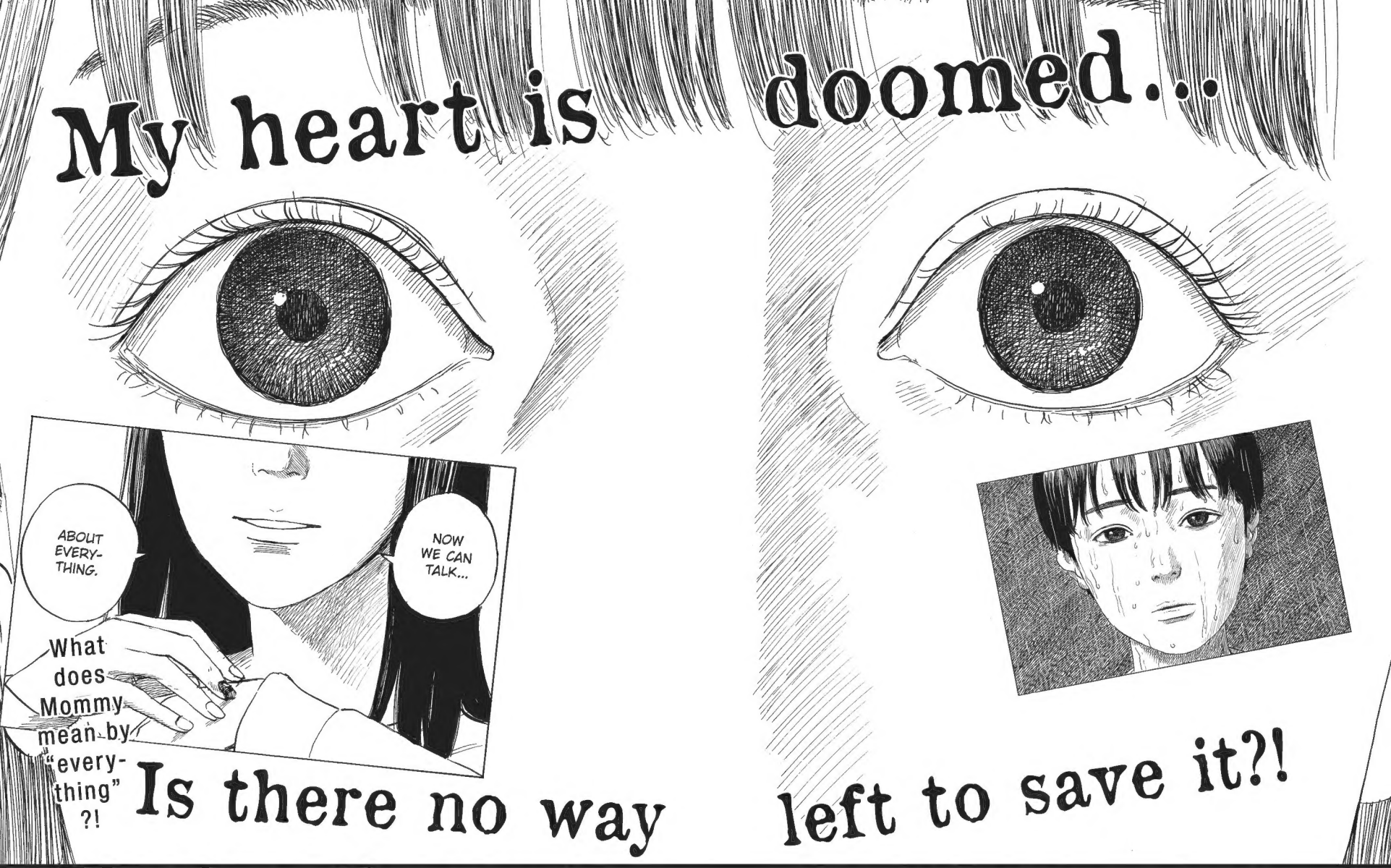
from your daddy Ichiro's.

Please let me keep watching over you forever.

Love, Mommy

Dear Sei,

When you were born, I thought hard about your name. Choosing a name is very important. Your name may even decide your whole life. The "Sei" in our names means "quiet." Ever since I was a child, I felt that I had to be quiet because my name was Seiko. I was jealous of the lively girls who could just say whatever they wanted. But I like where I am very much, quietly looking all around. I want to quietly give you all of my love. That's why I gave you the "Sei" from my name along with the "Ichi"



Volume 6 coming June 2021!!

Blood on the Tracks 5

A Vertical Comics Edition

Editor: Daniel Joseph
Translation: Daniel Komen
Production: Risa Cho
Evan Hayden

CHI NO WADACHI 5
by Shuzo OSHIMI

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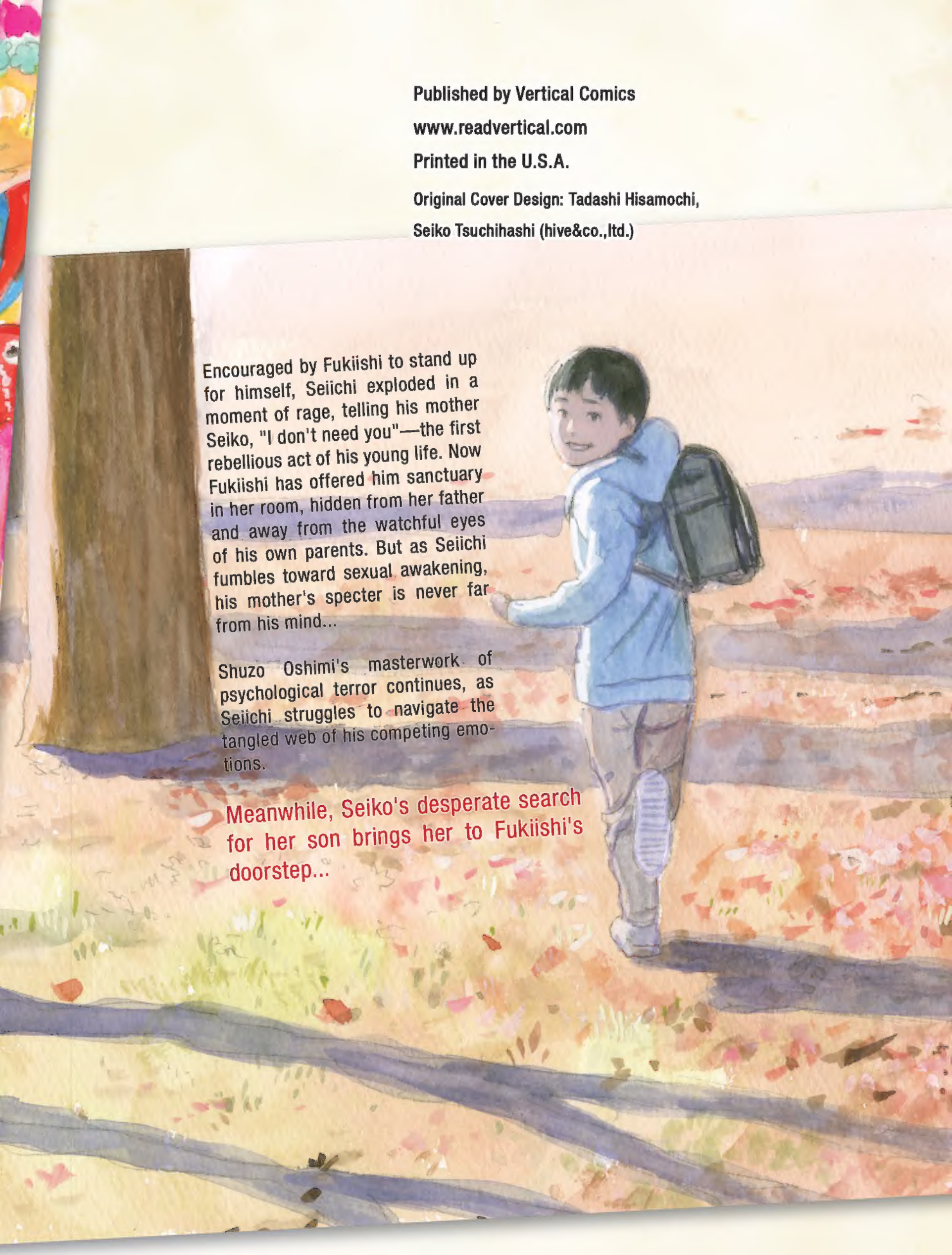

Encouraged by Fukiishi to stand up for himself, Seiichi exploded in a moment of rage, telling his mother Seiko, "I don't need you"—the first rebellious act of his young life. Now Fukiishi has offered him sanctuary in her room, hidden from her father and away from the watchful eyes of his own parents. But as Seiichi fumbles toward sexual awakening, his mother's specter is never far from his mind...

Shuzo Oshimi's masterwork of psychological terror continues, as Seiichi struggles to navigate the tangled web of his competing emotions.

Meanwhile, Seiko's desperate search for her son brings her to Fukiishi's doorstep...